



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

Stanley Crook Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Friday 19th April 2024

Vol: 5 Issue: 1

Headteacher's Notices

Ofsted Inspection

Many, many thanks for all of your support during inspection yesterday.

The day went better than anyone could have hoped for, with both inspectors being extremely impressed with EVERY aspect of Stanley Crook Primary School!

While I cannot disclose the actual outcome of the inspection, pending publication of the draft - and then final - report, I can say that the outcome achieved by school accurately reflects our own self-evaluation and provides every member of our school community with a judgement which is so rightly deserved.

Many thanks to my staff team. Every member of staff was incredible yesterday during inspection - as they are every day - and showcased to the inspection team their high levels of effectiveness in ensuring children at Stanley Crook Primary School receive only the highest quality of education and personal care.

Well done to all of the children - the most important part of our school! Each and every one of the children were OUTSTANDING! Whether it was meeting with the inspectors to read, to talk about maths, to review their work in RE, to talk about behaviour and attitudes or to simply pass them in the corridor and to wish them a 'Good Day', the children were superstars and represented the very best of themselves and our school.

The draft report will now be published in the next 18 working days, which I will then approve. This will be followed by the final report a further 5 working days later.

Once I receive the final report, I will publish this immediately to all parents.

Thank you all once again for your continued support. **WELL DONE, TEAM STANLEY CROOK!**

New School Website (reminder)

I am pleased to notify parents/ carers of school that the new school website has been launched.

The new site has been designed to improve accessibility and functionality for parents/ carers and children who are accessing the site so that information can be more easily located.

Remember to keep checking the website for updates, important diary dates and information about what is going on in school and across each Team. Every week, staff from each Team will update their Team pages with a summary of all the exciting and fun learning activities which have been completed during the week.

The new website will continue to be updated and reviewed on a regular basis and can be found by following this link:

<http://stanleycrook.durham.sch.uk> or by scanning the QR Code at the bottom of the page.

Teacher/ Parent Consultation Meetings

Unfortunately, due to the Ofsted inspection on Tuesday, teacher/ parent consultation meetings planned for the day had to be cancelled. Thank you to parents/ carers for your understanding with this unavoidable decision.

Face to face meetings will now be held in school on Tuesday 7th May.

In an attempt to support parents/ carers, the booking system will NOT reopen and appointment times chosen will simply transfer to the new date for meetings on the 7th May. These appointment times can be found through the Arbor Parent Portal.

If any parent/ carer can no longer make their booked time slot on the new date, please contact the school office, or contact your child's class teacher.

Pedestrian Training

Pedestrian training has been scheduled for children in Team Cowell to begin on Tuesday 23rd April. This will be Session 1 of the training, with Session 2 completing the training on Tuesday 30th April. A qualified child pedestrian trainer will visit school to deliver the training, supported by Team Cowell staff. Parents/ carers of children in Team Cowell have been sent consent forms to return to school. Please ensure children have appropriate clothing for these days.

FUN DAY

As a reward to the children for all of their hard work and outstanding effort during inspection, each Team has enjoyed a FUN DAY in school today. Well done to each and every child in school for their outstanding efforts and achievements.

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!



ARBOR & SCHOOL OFFICE - CLASS DOJO

IMPORTANT—PLEASE NOTE

From Monday 22nd April, School Office on Class Dojo **will no longer be used** for sending/receiving messages to the school office.

From Monday, please ensure all messages are **sent to the school office via -app messaging within the new Arbor system.**

School Office on Class Dojo will no longer be available or monitored by the Office team.

Thank you.

Weekly T.E.A.M.

Attendance Champions

Team Donaldson	97.2%
Team Dahl	95.6%
Team Cowell	94.4%
Team Walliams	93.6%
Team Morpurgo	95.7%



Congratulations to

TEAM DONALDSON

This week's attendance trophy winners!



WELL DONE, T.E.A.M. STANLEY CROOK!



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

'Together Everyone Achieves More'

What Parents and Carers Need to Know about Persuasive Design Online

For many companies who operate in the online space, attention and engagement are the holy grail. Social media sites in particular make deliberate creative choices to keep people scrolling, reading, watching and clicking. This phenomenon is known as 'persuasive design' and it's being employed in the vast majority of the digital world's most popular destinations.

A study by the charity 5Rights Foundation concluded that "...the brain's response to rewards and punishments can be leveraged through persuasive design to keep children online." To tie in with school strategy around keeping children safe online, our guide this week can help to educate parents/carers and youngsters on the effects of persuasive design – and suggests ways to insulate themselves from its influence.



SCHOOL MEMBER



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about PERSUASIVE DESIGN ONLINE

'Persuasive design' refers to the techniques that companies employ to influence our thoughts and behaviours when we're on the internet. These approaches can be spotted on websites, in apps and even as part of some video games. Persuasive design means that this content has been deliberately presented in a way that's intended to encourage you to spend your time or money (or both). These methods often prove highly effective at keeping people engaged and invested for longer than we might expect.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

POTENTIAL ADDICTION

In the digital world, persuasive design can make certain activities more addictive and harder to walk away from: some people may begin to feel anxious or irritated without access to their device or their favourite app, for example. It can also often leave users feeling isolated, as – if they spend most of their time on social media – they may start to find it difficult to talk to other people in real life.

MENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS

Scrolling online or gaming without regular breaks is proven to be harmful to our mental health. The constant bombardment of news stories (many of them negative), images and influencers' posts can create sensations of unease, uncertainty and FOMO (fear of missing out). Young people can get so immersed in this environment that they become less likely to spot misleading posts.

PROLONGED SCROLLING

Social media can draw any of us – regardless of age – into a continuous pattern of refreshing our screen, following posts and links down rabbit holes or reading countless comments made by others. This aimless scrolling can eat up time which could have been spent on more productive activities. It could also lead younger users into areas of the online world which aren't age appropriate.

SENSORY OVERLOAD

Repetitively scrolling, clicking on links or playing games can create an unending stream of new information and visual stimuli. Put it this way: social media isn't exactly renowned as a carefree, chilled-out environment. Such overstimulation can become too much for young people to handle, resulting in sensory overload and causing them to feel stressed, overwhelmed and exhausted.

COSTLY ADDITIONS

Video games sometimes display offers for downloadable content or loot boxes which can be bought with real money. While these 'microtransactions' temptingly promise to improve a player's gaming experience, most of the time they are money sinks. Young people in particular, excited by the chance of enhancing their game, could spend quite a sizeable sum very quickly indeed.

PHYSICAL CONSEQUENCES

Hours spent sitting and scrolling means far less time moving around and getting exercise: hardly ideal for a young person's physical health. Additionally, prolonged exposure to the light given off by a phone's screen can lead to eye fatigue and discomfort, especially if viewing it in the dark. Extended phone use before bed can also impact on sleep quality, affecting mood and energy levels over the following days.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ESTABLISH LIMITS

Talk to your child about setting some time limits on how long they can use their phone, tablet or console in the evenings or at weekends – or perhaps how often they can go on a specific app, game or website. You could also decide to involve the whole family in creating this shared screen time agreement, making things fair (and healthier) for everyone.

NIX NOTIFICATIONS

Stop knee-jerk responses at the source by turning off push notifications and alerts. Whether it's a gaming notification or a social media update, these not-so-gentle reminders are designed to catch our attention and lure us back to our device. Switching them off – or even deleting any particularly intrusive apps – can help prevent your child from being reeled back into the online world.

ENCOURAGE MINDFULNESS

Acknowledging any addiction is key in overcoming it – and compulsive scrolling is no different. If anything mentioned in this guide sounds familiar, it could help to have an honest, open chat with your child about how much time they spend online. Get them to think about how often they scroll through social media aimlessly or habitually open it up whenever they have a spare moment.

MAKE A CHECKLIST

Considering a list of relevant questions can be an effective way of helping children figure out why they're scrolling on certain sites or consuming particular pieces of content. A checklist can prompt young people to ask themselves if they're learning anything or benefiting from this activity – or if they're wasting their time. Taking a step back can sometimes help us to see things more clearly.

Meet Our Expert

Rebecca Jennings has more than 20 years' experience in the field of relationships, sex and health education (RSHE). As well as delivering workshops and training for young people, parents and schools, she is also a subject matter expert on RSHE for the Department of Education.



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