

## Message from the Headteacher

We have come to the end of our first week of online learning. I am incredibly proud of all of our pupils who have adapted so well and have behaved so maturely in their google classroom lessons. I would like to say a huge thank you to our staff at St John's who have worked so hard over the past few weeks to adapt their teaching to online. And we are extremely grateful to our wonderful parents who have done such a wonderful job home schooling this week. Thank you for your ongoing support.

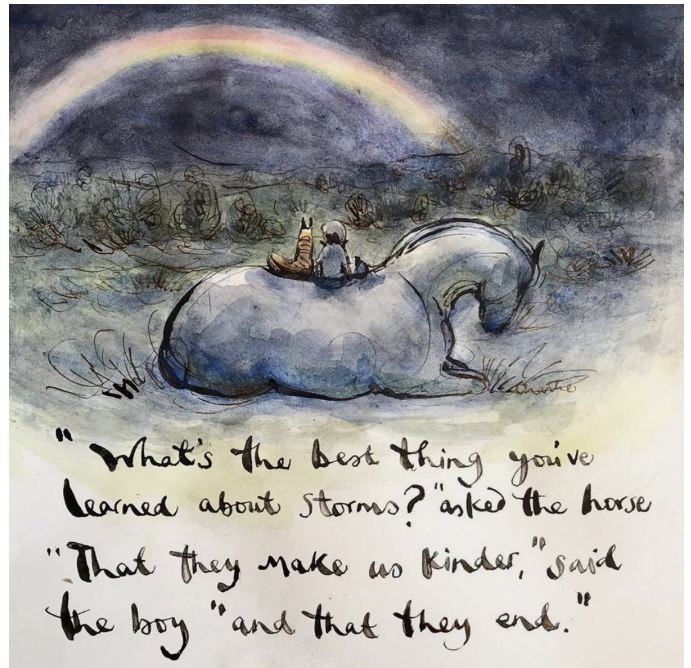
The start of google classrooms hasn't been without challenges but hopefully you have all now managed to access remote learning of some kind, whether that is the three daily live sessions or the learning packs on the website. Don't forget teachers are able to answer questions between live sessions on the chat facilities if you need any additional support.

As we said at the beginning, this is an ever changing picture and with this in mind there are some changes we will be making next week.

Teachers will be uploading learning packs to google classrooms in a bid to try and keep everything in one place. We understand that not everyone has access to goggle classrooms which is why we will continue to upload them to the website as well. We are also going to ask children to upload their work onto google classrooms. Teachers will set up the facility to do this each day and will endeavour to comment on at least one piece of each child's work per day.

As always this is a learning curve for us all. Be kind to yourself.

Mrs West-Gaul



## Book reviews

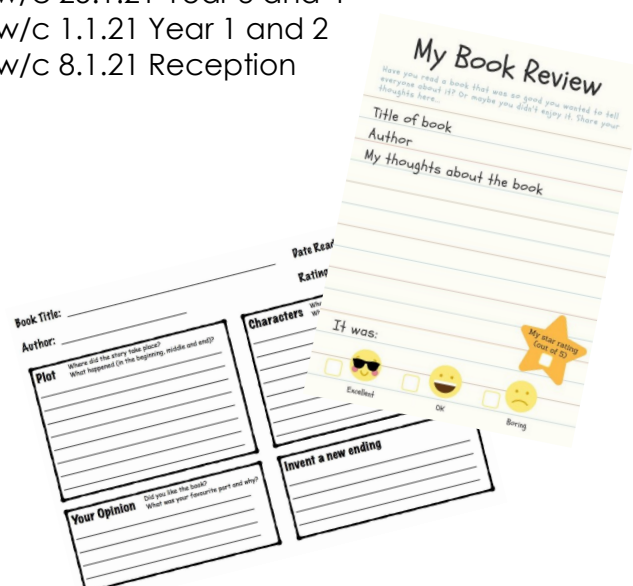
Each week two year groups are going to be set the challenge to recommend some books to us all. We are asking that the children in these year groups write/draw a book review for us to share on our website and Facebook page. Please send entries directly to the office email.

w/c 18.1.21 Year 5 and 6

w/c 25.1.21 Year 3 and 4

w/c 1.1.21 Year 1 and 2

w/c 8.1.21 Reception



**My Book Review**  
Have you read a book that was so good you wanted to tell everyone about it? Or maybe you didn't enjoy it. Share your thoughts here:

Title of book \_\_\_\_\_  
Author \_\_\_\_\_  
My thoughts about the book \_\_\_\_\_

Date Read \_\_\_\_\_  
Rating \_\_\_\_\_


Book Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Author: \_\_\_\_\_

**Plot**  
Where did the story take place?  
What happened (in the beginning, middle and end)?

**Characters**  
Who were the characters?  
If was:  Excellent  OK  Boring

**Your Opinion**  
Did you like the book?  
What was your favourite part and why?

**Invent a new ending**  
\_\_\_\_\_

My star rating (out of 5) 

### **A note from the wellbeing team:**

Each week we will be ringing parents to keep in touch with them and the children and to ensure that they have everything they need for home learning. Phone calls will be being made by all of our TAs who aren't in school with our keyworker bubble groups so unfortunately it may not be your child's TA who rings. We would like to speak to your child if possible so that they feel in touch with the school, but appreciate that not all pupils will be happy to do so and that is fine. TA's will be ringing from home so the number may come up as 'unknown'. If you miss a call don't worry, they will try you another time.

Attached is a wellbeing newsletter which will be sent out weekly. This will include lots of



### **Star of the week**

From next week we will be awarding a star of the week certificate to a pupil in each class. Please make sure that you continue to photograph and upload work to your class teacher each day. They will be choosing the best piece of work to share with Mrs West-Gaul who will



### **Free 'Maths no problems' work books**

We have a number of 'maths no problems' books suitable from year 1 to year 6 which we no longer require. We are happy to give these away to any families who may find them useful. These can be collected from the table outside the school office from Monday.

### **St John's got Talent**

Next weeks assembly theme is talents. We would like the children (and staff!) to take a picture or record themselves showing off their talents. This could be a magic trick, gymnastics, playing an instrument or even a piece of artwork. Again we hope to share these with our school community on our website, Facebook page and YouTube channel. Please email a video or photo of your child's talent to the school office.





## E-Safety notice

In recent months technology and the internet has been a hugely important part of our lives. It has helped us stay connected with loved ones, provided entertainment and of course supported your child's learning. You may find these online tips helpful in ensuring that your child stays safe online.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one topic of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# Online Safety Tips FOR CHILDREN WITH NEW DEVICES

The current generation are the first children to grow up in a world where digital devices are the norm. Recent studies have found that 88% of British 12-year-olds have a smartphone. Four out of ten 6-year-olds own a tablet. And almost two-thirds (64%) of children aged 8-11 use a games console. It's now rare to find a child who doesn't regularly use internet-enabled technology. Each new device means exciting new corners of the digital world to explore – and, unfortunately, new risks to be aware of.

We've put together our top tips to help you guide your children in enjoying new digital devices safely and responsibly.

### 1. ALWAYS SET A PASSWORD

If your child's new device has a password protection feature, use it! It'll help to keep their private information safe and will deny others access to their device without permission. Your children's passwords should be something memorable to them – but something which other people can't guess (It's also a good idea for parents to write it down in case it gets forgotten!).

### 2. SET UP PARENTAL CONTROLS

This really is an essential when your child gets a new device, so they're protected from the outset. Most phones, tablets and consoles allow you to customise their settings to determine which games your child can play, how they can communicate (and who with), what content they can access and so on. It will give you peace of mind that they can't unintentionally do something they shouldn't.

### 3. PAY ATTENTION TO AGE RATINGS

One of the first things children want to do with a new device is play games and explore apps. Before they download anything or install a new console game, check its age rating. Many popular games and apps have content that's not suitable for younger ages. The safest long-term solution is to adjust the device's settings so they can only download and use games and apps appropriate for their age.

### 4. KEEP NUMBERS AND DEVICES PRIVATE

Make sure your child understands that they should never share their phone number with someone they don't know or accept a friend request from them. They should also appreciate that it's a good idea to mainly keep their device out of sight, never lend it to a stranger, and never put it down somewhere that other people could steal it or take it to use without asking.

### 5. HAVE 'THE MONEY CONVERSATION'

Before your children start using their new device in earnest, talk to them about in-app purchases and other ways that money might be spent through their device. Once they understand, you might want to agree on a spending limit and reassure them that they can come to you if they're uncertain, or if they have made a purchase by accident.

### 6. DISCOURAGE DEVICE DEPENDENCY

Of course, children who've just got a new device will naturally want to spend as much time on it as possible. But whether they're zapping bad guys, watching videos or connecting with friends, it's easy for them to get attached very quickly. Gently remind them that having family time, going outdoors and getting some exercise are fun, too. And the device will still be there when they get back.

### 7. EXPLAIN SECURE WIFI NETWORKS

Your home WiFi is protected by a password that only your family knows, whereas public networks (like those in coffee shops, for example) can be accessed by anyone. It's important that your child grasps this difference because, if they're using a portable device on an unsecured network, then a hacker could access their personal information without them even knowing.

### 8. LIMIT SCREEN TIME

Using a device for too long, especially just before bed, can interfere with a child's sleep quality and reduce their concentration and overall enthusiasm. It might be helpful to agree on certain times of day when they don't use their device. Most devices' settings let you set a screen-time limit, helping your child to stay fresh and focused so they can perform well at school.

### 9. ONLY PAIR WITH KNOWN BLUETOOTH DEVICES

Your child may want to connect to another device via Bluetooth, so they can listen to music wirelessly or share pictures and videos with nearby friends. But if they use Bluetooth to link with a device that they don't know, they're at risk of a stranger being able to see their personal information or having someone transmit a virus onto their device.

### 10. TURN LOCATION SETTINGS OFF

It's safest to disable the device's location services (if it's a portable device) so your child doesn't inadvertently make other people aware of where they are. You can usually do this via the device's privacy control settings. Turning location settings off not only means your child's whereabouts can't be tracked by others, it also significantly extends battery life.

### 11. STAY AWARE OF THE SURROUNDINGS

It's common to see adults not looking where they're going while engrossed in their phone. Children are even more easily distracted. In some cases, young people have been hit by cars or cyclists because they were staring at their device and lost track of where they were. Remind your child that screens and walking don't mix. If they need to use their device, they should stop in a safe place first.

### 12. BE THERE IF THEY NEED TO TALK

Even when you've made a device as secure as you can, there's still a possibility of your child seeing something that bothers them, or someone they don't know attempting to contact them. If this happens, listen to their concerns, empathise and reassure them. Once they've explained what happened, you can decide if you should take further action like blocking or reporting another user.



**NOS**  
National  
Online  
Safety®  
#WakeUpWednesday



[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 18.12.2020

