



# GROVE WEEKLY BULLETIN

## Dear Parents and Carers,

I do hope that you have had a good week.

Thank you to so many of you for joining us on the Options Evening on Tuesday night and I hope that you and your child gathered as much information as possible to help with choosing the subjects to be studied next year. If you do have any further questions, your child can speak to their subject teachers or you can contact Mrs Townsend on [laura.townsend@groveschool.net](mailto:laura.townsend@groveschool.net).

At this time of year we all start thinking about booking our Summer holidays so you will find the school term dates for 2019 - 2020 on our school web site. While I fully understand that it is more cost effective to take family holidays during term time I would like to remind you that I am legally obliged to only authorise absence in exceptional circumstances.

It has been getting much colder this week with weather forecasters predicting snow on higher grounds and icy conditions. I would like to remind you that in the event of needing to close the school due to the weather conditions a notice will be placed on the School website by 7:00am and bus companies will be informed as will BBC Radio Shropshire. We will also post a message on our Facebook and Twitter pages. I would urge you not to ring the school as the reception will not be staffed.

As you are aware, it is Progress Day for the whole school on Thursday so your child will be provided with work to complete at home and will be expected to attend their appointment with you in full school uniform carrying their planner. This is a great opportunity to have a good conversation and set some clear targets for the rest of the academic year.

I look forward to seeing many of you on Thursday,

**Mrs Taylor, Headteacher**

## Term Dates

### Spring Term 2019

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April  
Half term: Monday 18<sup>th</sup> to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February  
**PD Day: Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February**

### Summer Term 2019

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July  
Half term: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May  
**Bank Holiday: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May**

## Online Safety

NSPCC have teamed up with O2 to offer some fantastic advice and tips to safeguard children online:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-we-do/about-us/partners/nspcc-o2-online-safety-partnership/>

There is also a helpline if you have a question about parental controls or concerns about a social network your child uses, which is 0808 8005002.

**10 APPS TEENS ARE USING THAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW**

- Calculator%**: This app looks like a calculator but functions like a secret photo vault.
- Hot or Not**: Strangers rate your profile. Goal is to lead to a hook up.
- Omegle**: A free online chat website that promotes chatting anonymously to strangers.
- Burn Book**: Post anonymous rumors about people through audio messages, texts, and photos.
- Snapchat**: This is the way most teens communicate with each other. Sending messages and snaps that disappear within seconds and stories go away after 24 hours. Teens live for a "streak" of communication.
- Wishbone**: An app that allows users to compare kids against each other and rate them on a scale.
- Whisper**: An anonymous app where the creators promote sharing secrets and meeting new people.
- Kik**: Messaging app. Kik has built in apps and web content that would be filtered on home computer.
- ask.fm**: Ask an anonymous question and get an answer. This app has been linked to the most severe forms of cyberbullying.
- Instagram**: Many kids are now creating fake accounts "finsta" to hide content from parents. Kids also like to text using Instagram because most kids know parents won't check messages.

FOR MORE INFO: APPSOLUTELYAPRIL.COM  
Please note: Due to the nature of the Internet and App Store, web and app resources change often. Any outdated material will be corrected and updated. This graphic was created by April Reardon.  
Image source: APPSOLUTELYAPRIL.COM

## Young Enterprise

Our Young Enterprise group, 'Picturesque' have been busy this week working on stock for their first trade sale. The team have collected old drinks bottles and have been recycling them to re-purpose them as toothbrush holders. The team have already sourced bamboo toothbrushes to sell with the holders so the project has an environmental basis (recycling and reducing plastic use). The group have been fundraising to fund the project and hope to run the business at a profit for the following year.



## Maths Lessons

We have had card games during Maths lessons in the library recently. The lessons sharpen student memory, recall and mental arithmetic.



## Progress Day

Library Manager and CEIAG co-ordinator, Mrs Clarke will be available in the Library on Progress Day for informal chats about careers and options.

## Online Safety

National Online Safety (NOS) have put together a seven step guide to approaching a conversation with your child(ren) about staying safe online. This can be found [here](#).

**NOS National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

**7 questions to help you start a conversation with your child about online safety**

- Which apps/games are you using at the moment?**  
THIS WILL GIVE YOU A GOOD OVERVIEW OF THE TYPES OF THINGS YOUR CHILDREN ARE DOING ON THEIR DEVICES, ALONG WITH THEIR INTERESTS. REMEMBER THAT THEY MIGHT NOT TELL YOU EVERYTHING THEY ARE USING, SO IT IS A GOOD IDEA TO ASK THEM TO SHOW YOU THEIR DEVICES, BECAUSE NEW APPS AND GAMES ARE RELEASED REGULARLY. IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE THIS CONVERSATION OFTEN TO ENSURE YOU ARE UP TO DATE WITH WHAT THEY ARE DOING.
- Which websites do you enjoy using and why?**  
AS IN THE TIP ABOVE, ASKING THIS QUESTION WILL ALLOW YOU TO FIND OUT WHAT YOUR CHILD IS DOING ONLINE, AND ENCOURAGE POSITIVE CONVERSATIONS ABOUT THEIR ONLINE ACTIVITY. ASK THEM HOW THEY USE THE WEBSITES, AND TAKE AN INTEREST IN HOW THEY CAN USE THEM IN A POSITIVE WAY. ALSO ASKING THEM TO SHOW YOU IF POSSIBLE.
- How does this game/app work? Can I play?**  
SHOW A GENUINE INTEREST IN WHAT THEY ARE DOING. WHILE YOU ARE PLAYING A GAME OR USING AN APP WITH THEM, IT MIGHT HIGHLIGHT SOMETHING THAT THEY DON'T NECESSARILY THINK IS A DANGER TO THEM. IF THEY ACT LIKE 'THEY DON'T WANT TO SHARE THEIR ACTIVITIES WITH YOU, QUESTION WHY.
- Do you have any online friends?**  
CHILDREN CAN FORM POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH PEOPLE ONLINE, AND THIS HAS BECOME MORE COMMON THANKS TO ONLINE MULTI-PLAYER OPTIONS, BUT THEY MAY NOT FULLY UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A FRIEND AND A STRANGER. YOU COULD MAKE THE QUESTION MORE SPECIFIC TO YOUR CHILD. FOR EXAMPLE: 'HAVE YOU MET ANYONE ONLINE THAT YOU LIKE TO PLAY GAMES WITH?' THEY MAY NOT WANT TO SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH YOU, SO ENSURE YOU TEACH THEM ABOUT HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS.
- Do you know where to go for help?**  
ALTHOUGH YOU MAY BE THE ADULT THEY TRUST THE MOST, SOME CHILDREN STRUGGLE TO TALK ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS ONLINE DUE TO CONFUSION OR EMBARRASSMENT. BECAUSE OF THIS THEY MAY STRUGGLE TO APPROACH THE NORMAL PEOPLE WHO WOULD HELP, SUCH AS YOURSELF OR A TEACHER. HAVE A CHAT TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT EXACTLY WHERE THEY CAN GO FOR HELP, AND HOW THEY CAN REPORT ANY ACTIVITY THAT THEY BELIEVE IS INAPPROPRIATE ONLINE.
- Do you know what your personal information is?**  
YOUR CHILD MAY ALREADY KNOW WHAT THEIR PERSONAL INFORMATION IS BUT THEY MIGHT NOT THINK ABOUT HOW IT CAN BE SHARED. HAVE A CONVERSATION ABOUT WHAT PERSONAL INFORMATION IS AND HOW THIS CAN AFFECT THEM IF IT IS SHARED BEYOND THE INTENDED RECIPIENT. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOUR CHILD UNDERSTANDS THE DANGERS OF SHARING CONTACT DETAILS OR PHOTOS, AS INFORMATION SUCH AS THIS CAN SPREAD QUICKLY ONLINE.
- Do you know your limits?**  
CHILDREN MAY NOT UNDERSTAND THE NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF DEVICE OR GAME ADDICTION. TALK TO THEM OPENLY ABOUT HEALTHY HABITS AND ASK WHETHER OR NOT THEIR SPENDING TIME ONLINE OR PLAYING A GAME IS AFFECTING THEIR SLEEP, PERFORMANCE AT SCHOOL, OR IF THEY ARE GENERALLY LOSING INTEREST IN OTHER ACTIVITIES. YOU MAY LEAD ON TO ENCOURAGING ALTERNATIVE ACTIVITIES AND DISCUSSING THE INTRODUCTION OF TIME LIMITS WHEN AT HOME.

www.nationalonlinesafety.com | Twitter - @natonlinesafety | Facebook - /nationalonlinesafety | Phone - 0800 368 8061

## Business Enterprise Project

Our Year 9 Business Enterprise project with Stoke City Football Club concluded with a celebration visit to the stadium on Thursday 10th January. Students have worked especially hard over the past 12 weeks learning about how businesses operate, exploring employment opportunities, alongside designing new products and reviewing how to advertise them effectively. The scheme concluded with a stadium tour, awards ceremony and a game of football with the non-bibs winning 4-3. Throughout the scheme, students have earned Stoke City dollars and the winners with the most dollars each won two tickets to the Stoke game against Leeds United on 19th January.

Students were fortunate to experience the set up for a live press conference in the room next to where they were working thanks to the appointment of a new manager, Nathan Jones which was exciting to watch.



## Careers Interviews

Our Careers, Employment, Information Advice and Guidance co-ordinator, Mrs Clarke has started Year 11 careers interviews which will run for the following few weeks ensuring all students are supported and informed as to the pathways available to them after school.

