

Friday 16th December 2022- Newsletter 14

A message from Miss Towler...

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a very busy but wonderful week for our final one of the term. The children impressed me so much with their resilience, courage and creativity whilst performing in front of their loved ones. A special thank you to Rev Paulie who made us all feel very welcome at St Mary's Church for our Carols at Candlelight service. It was a lovely opportunity to sing some well known Christmas carols whilst appreciating the beauty of our local church. Rev Paulie kindly helped select our Christmas readings which were read out beautifully by three very brave members of Team Neptune: Elliott, Jessica and Hattie.

I really do hope you have a lovely Christmas holiday, a well deserved rest and we look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 3rd January 2023 ready for the start of the New Year. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year Team TPA!

Best wishes,
Caroline Towler, Headteacher



Our school attendance this TERM is: 96.53%

Our school attendance target is 97%.

Neptune: 96.20%

Saturn: 97.25% Top Team Attendance :)

Jupiter: 96.73%

Venus Reception: 94.85%

Our school attendance this WEEK is: 89.79%

Our school attendance target is 97%.

Neptune: 90.61%

Saturn: 91.20% Top Team Attendance :)

Jupiter: 87.86%

Venus Reception: 88.89%

***As Government guidance states, your child's attendance is compulsory in school and unless they are unwell we ask that you ensure they are in school, on time, every day.**



TPAC update 🎅 🌲 🧑🏻 🎅 🌲 ❄️ 📺

Christmas Market: What a big success our Christmas Market was last Friday. Thank you to everyone who came along and joined us for this fabulous fundraiser. Whether you were involved in spending your spare change or running a stall as TPAC your support was very much appreciated!



My child is late for school...what should I do?

Over recent weeks we have been struggling with the number of children arriving late to school. We have found that more and more children have been arriving at school late meaning they are then required to be dropped off at their classroom by Mrs Loney in the office. By being late they then miss vital learning and often struggle to settle into their classroom routines.



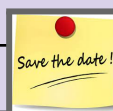
Our school gates **open at 8.45am** and all children should be in school by **8.50am**. Our school gates close at **8.55am** and so if your child arrives late after the gates close we ask that families follow the guidance shared here.

Parents must accompany their child to the school entrance where a staff member will open the school entrance and ask that families sign their child in using the school inventory sign in system explaining the reason for their absence. When children are late and arrive after 8.55am this is recorded as a late mark. **This will affect your child's attendance.**

It is not safe for your child to access school without being accompanied as there is not always a staff member in the office. Regardless of the year group your child is in, they must be brought to the school entrance and a reason for the late mark must be given. This has to be added on your child's file. If your child is late on several occasions you will be required to meet as part of a late attendance action plan meeting.

Please help us by ensuring that your child arrives at school before 8.50am. Thank you for your support with this.

Dates for your diary for the coming weeks



Dates	What's happening at TPA?
Tuesday 3rd Jan	School reopens for the Spring term (Please note Tuesday return date)
Monday 9th Jan	NEW: KS2 Football Club with York FC Foundation 3.30pm - 4.30pm. Please collect your child from the front school entrance
Tuesday 10th Jan	NEW: KS1&2 Music and Singing Club with Mrs Oldfield 3.30pm - 4.30pm. Please collect your child from the front school entrance
	NEW: KS1&2 Dodgeball 3.30pm - 4.30pm. Please collect your child from the front school entrance
Wednesday 11th Jan	Team Saturn swimming session (see letter for further details)
Thursday 12th Jan	NEW: Team Venus Reception Craft Club with Miss Ambler 3.20pm - 4.25pm. Please collect your child from the EY front entrance.
	NEW: KS1&2 Dance Club with York Dance Space 3.30pm - 4.30pm. Please collect your child from the front school entrance.



Twitter at TPA

Please click on the link below to see if your child is appearing on Twitter right now! [Tadcaster Primary Academy](#) 🌈 (@TadPrimaryAcad)

Internet Safety with Mr Ramzan



Please see the link below for some useful guidance for Parents regarding how to keep your child safe online. This is especially important at a time when children will be receiving gifts of new devices over Christmas. There is some great age appropriate guidance for children of all ages so please take the time to look at this online resource for Parents and Carers.

[Parent Safe Online Safety](#)

See further useful guidance about setting up new devices on the image below.

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 of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SETTING UP APPS, GAMES AND SOFTWARE

Millions of new phones, tablets, laptops and games consoles will be nesting under Christmas trees this year. However, even if parents and carers have gone to the trouble of setting up these new devices and enabling the safety features, there are still potential hazards in the apps, games and software that children will want to install and use. Knowing what to look for and discussing those risks with your child may help avoid any nasty surprises this Christmas. Here are our top tips for ensuring that unwrapping this year's presents doesn't unleash any unexpected dangers.

TAKE NOTE OF AGE RATINGS

Back when most games were bought in shops, checking the age rating was easy: it was on the front of the box. Now that most games are downloaded, it's tougher – but not impossible. All reputable download stores show a game's age rating at the point of purchase, and you can check the suitability of a specific title your child wants to play at videostandards.org.uk/RatingBoard/games.

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'FREE' ISN'T ALWAYS FREE

The games market has changed radically in recent years. Many titles are free to download, but then tempt players to pay for cosmetic items (as in Fortnite) or to unlock additional content. There can be huge peer pressure for children to pay for these items. Agree a budget for in-game purchases before the game is downloaded, and make sure children can't authorise in-game purchases by themselves.

DISABLE IN-APP PURCHASING

It's not wise to leave children with devices that can make in-app purchases without your permission. Ideally, set up computers, consoles and phones so child accounts need an adult's authorisation to buy anything. On shared devices (like iPads, which don't allow user accounts), check the settings to ensure that in-app purchasing requires the account holder's password, fingerprint or face ID.

CHECK THE SPECS

To avoid let-downs, check a game's specs before buying – especially for PC or Mac, where games often need a particular graphics chip or processor to work. Sites like systemrequirementslab.com can scan your computer to see if it will run certain games properly. On consoles, make sure you're buying the right version: some newer Xbox or PlayStation games won't play on older consoles.

MONITOR IN-GAME COMMS

Voice chat with friends is part of the fun of modern gaming – but danger lurks here too. Many titles have open chat systems, meaning that children could speak to strangers or hear adult language and verbal abuse when games get particularly competitive. Using a shared family area (as opposed to alone in bedrooms) for online gaming is a good way to keep an occasional ear on what's being said.

BE WARY OF GIFTS

Titles like Roblox, Minecraft and Fortnite have in-game currencies, which can be earned through progress in the game – but can also be bought with real money. A common scam is for a young player to be offered currency if they click a link, visit a certain site or contact another user directly. Warn your child about such offers; they should show you if they're in any doubt over an in-game gift.

APPS ARE AGE RATED, TOO

Like games, apps in the major stores have age ratings, too – so you can see in advance whether an app's appropriate for your child. Additionally, phones' parental control settings allow you to set age limits, preventing young ones from downloading unsuitable apps themselves. These ratings aren't infallible, however: we've seen TV apps featuring adult shows with an age rating of 3, for example.

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CONSIDER STORAGE

Most apps and games will tell you in the online store how much space they need on a device. Check this carefully – especially with games, which can run into hundreds of megabytes and beyond. If you don't have enough free storage on a device to run the game or app, you won't get a refund from the store. You can normally check a device's available storage space through the settings menu.

WATCH OUT FOR IMITATORS

Even in the official stores, untrustworthy rogue apps can slip through the net. Common tricks are apps or games that have a slightly different name to the genuine article (Fortnite rather than Fortnite, for instance) or use logos which deliberately look very similar to the official app. To avoid downloading these imitations, read the app's description and check who the publisher is listed as.

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LEGAL APPS THAT BREAK THE LAW

There are many apps that are perfectly legal but enable illegal activity – streaming apps which let people watch football matches, say, without paying for Sky or BT Sport. Prosecution for using such apps is rare, but they can lead to risky behaviour like viewing rogue streams on sites teeming with malicious links. Watch for children installing unusual apps with 'TV', 'stream' or 'sport' in the name.

IN-APP REGISTRATION

It's common for apps and games to ask users to register: entering personal details like email address, date of birth and other information you might not want your child to divulge. Ask them to get your permission before giving any personal info to an app – and consider using your details rather than the child's, so they're not targeted by marketing spam or put at risk of having their data stolen.

STAY UPDATED

Most games and apps are subject to regular updates, which can offer new content and features but also provide critical security improvements. Children tend to ignore such updates – usually because they don't understand why they're important, or they simply want to get straight on with gaming. Check your child's devices periodically to make sure these updates are being installed.

Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the *Sunday Times*, *Which?*, *PC Pro* and *Computeractive*. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on *Newsnight*, *Radio 5 Live* and *ITV News at Ten*. He has two children and has written regularly about internet safety issues.

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🎄 Celebrating Christmas at TPA (Part Two) 🎄
Look at how we celebrated Christmas at TPA!

