



Thought of the Week

Just one small positive thought in the morning can change your whole day. - Dalai Lama

A Message from our Head of School

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to wish a **Happy Lunar New Year** to our families who are celebrating. May the new year bring you peace and joy.

This week, children and parents alike were delighted to welcome back class assemblies. **Maple Class** and **Elm Class** treated us to impressive assemblies about World War 2. As well as lots of factual information, there was music and drama focussing on the experiences of evacuees (children sent out of cities during the war). Well done Year 6!

The **27th of January is Parent Mental Health Day**. This day shines a light on and encourages understanding and awareness of the importance of parents' mental health and its impact on the whole family system. This year's theme is *balance*. The day aims to get parents and carers to take a moment to reflect on the balance they have in their lives and to take positive steps to make change. Find useful tips and more information [here](#).

Safer internet day is **the 7th of February** and the theme this year is: **Want to talk about it?** Making space for conversations about life online is an important part of teaching children how to use the internet safely. To support you in having these conversations with your children, Natterhub is offering another **FREE Online Webinar for Parents** and details will be shared soon. The UK Safer Internet Centre have also just been released [TOP TIPS](#) to help support parents and carers with supporting young people to stay safe online.

I am delighted to announce that Dog Kennel Hill has achieved the **Primary Science Quality Mark**. This is a significant achievement for a school and reflects our commitment the teaching and learning of science across the school. You can find out more [here](#).

I would like to make parents and carers aware that there have been **bike thefts** in local schools and unfortunately we witnessed suspicious activity near the bike shed this week. Please ensure that bikes and scooters are locked and that adult bicycles are not left unattended on the playground.

Wishing you a restful weekend.

Barbara Ghezzi

Are you a Rockstar?

Children in Year 2 to Year 6 have access to **Time Table Rockstars** (TTRS). TTRS is a fun way for children to confidently learn and practise their multiplication tables.

We recommend a little and often approach. **Playing 4 to 5 times a week for 3 minutes** will help children recall their multiplication and related division facts.

Learning times tables off by heart makes mental maths much easier. It will boost your child's confidence in their maths lessons at school, but it's also a skill they'll use all the time in the world outside school.

We know that when children know their multiplication tables well, it helps them to master key concepts and move quickly through more complex maths problems with confidence.

If your child has misplaced their login details, please ask their class teacher who can provide these. **Let's start ROCKING!**

<https://ttrockstars.com/>



Did you Know?

In today's digitally connected world, children and adults are constantly presented with new ways to engage, react and contribute. We're sociable beings; it's a natural human instinct, especially amongst younger audiences, to want to belong and join in. **Viral Challenges** (as they're often known) draw on these emotions and, as the name suggests, spread and gather pace very rapidly. New challenges are constantly emerging and evolving. They're often completely innocent, raising awareness of worthy causes or simply providing amusement. However, they can have much more sinister undertones, **putting children at risk of physical harm or, in extreme cases, fatal injury**.

In the **guide on page 4**, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as mental wellbeing, physical harm and injury.



DKH Newsletter 27th January 2023



Dates for the Diary



27.01.23	School Council Visit to Houses of Parliament
01.02.23	School Closed to Pupils
06.02.23	Design Technology Week Begins
07.02.23	Safer Internet Day
09.02.23	Hazel Class Assembly
13.02.23 – 17.02.23	Half Term
20.02.23	Children return to school
22.02.23	Year 6 Junior Citizenship Scheme
23.02.23	Percussion Festival
01.03.23	Palm Class Assembly
02.03.23	Eucalyptus Class Assembly
08.03.23	Beech Class Assembly
10.03.23 – 17.03.23	British Science Week
15.03.23	Elder Class Assembly
16.03.23	Willow Class Assembly
29.03.23	EYFS Assembly
30.03.23	Parents Evening
31.03.23	Last day of the Spring Term – Finish at 2pm
03.04.23 – 14.04.23	End of term holidays
17.04.23	Teacher Inset Day – No Children
18.04.23	Children return to school
18.04.23 – 21.04.23	Year 3 and Year 4 Bikeability workshops

Attendance

Caterpillar	93.65%	Eucalyptus	96.67%
Willow	96.15%	Sycamore	91.23%
Elder	90%	Hazel	92.44%
Palm	91.11%	Elm	91.88%
Beech	93.42%	Maple	95.17%

Star of the Week!



We would like to recognise the children who have been great examples of our school values and have shown true commitment to their learning. Well done!

Nursery	Harvey , for a fantastic start at nursery. Lucas , for being a kind friend.
Reception	Isha , for her fantastic listening skills and for always trying her best! Shyanna , for enthusiasm this week towards her maths learning.
Willow	Sofia , for being super courageous and starting to write sentences independently. Richlove , for always showing enthusiasm for her learning. Mohammed , for working so hard at home on improving his writing!
Elder	Freddie and Kieron , for a fantastic effort to improve the quality and quantity of their written work.
Palm	Asia , for showing outstanding courage to tackle difficult questions in maths. Moses , for strong resilience towards his learning and understanding in the classroom.
Beech	Izzy , showing courage and determination during ukelele lessons. Ayyash , for demonstrating courage and focus during ukelele lessons.
Eucalyptus	Jamal , for his ambition and courage to be the best swimmer he can be! Hanan for her constant inquisitive and kind nature.
Sycamore	Tomray , for showing a courageous effort in completing all tasks set, even if he thought they were impossible. Ella , for her determination in conquering subtraction to successfully complete her maths work.
Hazel	Azriel , for his courageous attitude at the start of his day, enabling him to have a positive school day! Ibrahim , for creating an amazing home-made pop book using his knowledge of mechanisms from DT!
Maple	Everyone in Maple Class for having the courage and determination to perform a fantastic class assembly on WW2. Izaiah , for writing an excellent report on The Blitz.
Elm	Everyone in Elm Class for working so hard to put on a fantastic class assembly. Tia , for showing courage when performing in the class assembly.

Charles's Friday Facts

By Charles, Year 4

Did you know that the pterodactyl was the first flying reptile to be discovered?

Did you know that this discovery was made in Germany?

Click here to learn more about pterodactyls [here](#).

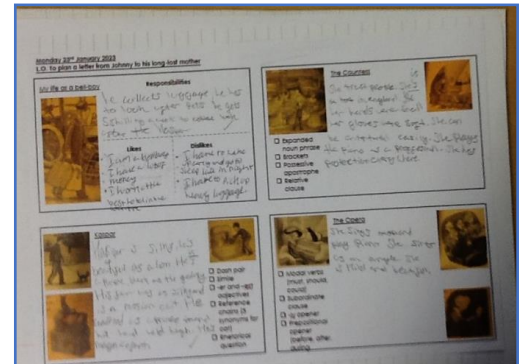
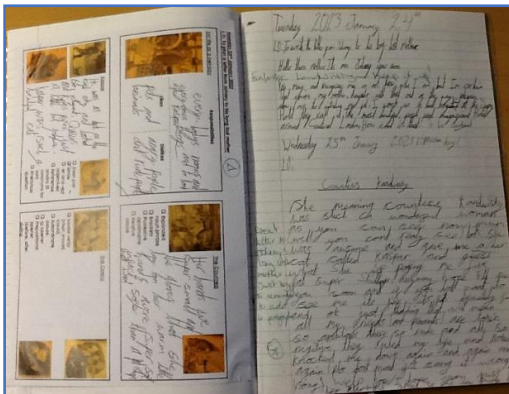
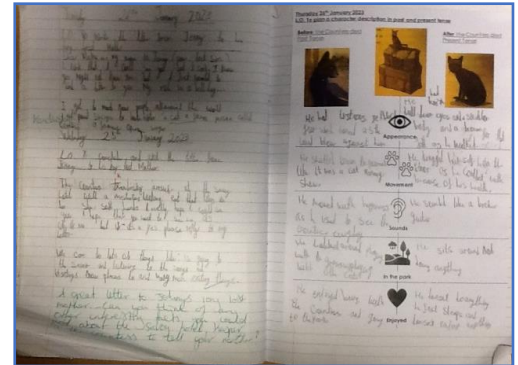
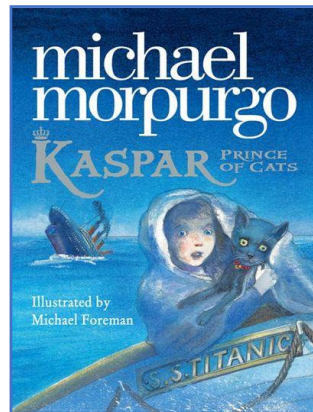
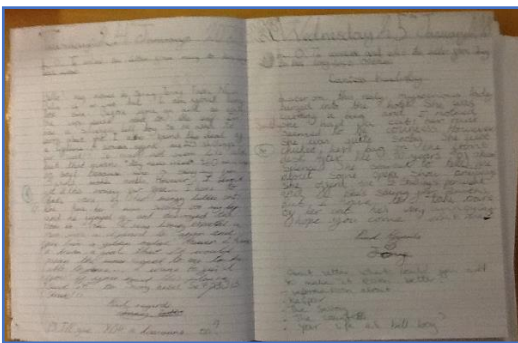
If your child is good with deadlines and would like to contribute to the newsletter, please speak with Barbara Ghezzi, Head of School.



We love LEARNING

Year 5 have just started reading the novel *Kaspar Prince of Cats*. The book is based on a bellboy called Johnny Trott who works at the Savoy Hotel in London. Johnny is left to care for Countess Kandinsky's cat after she dies. Johnny and the cat, Kaspar, end up taking part in exciting and worldly adventures together.

The students have enjoyed creating character descriptions of Kaspar. They have written a letter in the role of Johnny to his long-lost mother, telling her not to worry about him as he is proudly working in the Savoy Hotel in London. The children have worked extremely hard using complex vocabulary, powerful adjectives and extended noun phrases to bring their work alive. You can see their brilliant work below!



SEN Parent Workshop

When? Wednesday 8th February, 8:45am-9:15am

Where? Cherry Class

Please join our **SENDCO, Miss O'Reilly**, for an SEN parent workshop. We will be discussing the following:

- Identifying children with additional need
- Support for children in the school
- External agencies that can support children
- Where to find support as parents/guardians

Please email vo'reilly@dkh.southwark.sch.uk if you would like to attend.



Safety First

Please remember that the car park gate is not to be used for pedestrian access. Using this gate for pedestrian access puts both pedestrians and drivers at risk.



Please support us in keeping everyone as safe as possible. If you need to access breakfast club, use the buzzer and please wait for the pedestrian gate to be released. Using this gate is the safest way to enter the school.

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need 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 for further guides, hints and tips for adults.



In today's digitally connected world, children and adults are constantly presented with new ways to engage, react and contribute. We're sociable beings; it's a natural human instinct, especially amongst younger audiences, to want to belong and join in. Viral Challenges (as they're often known) draw on these emotions and, as the name suggests, spread and gather pace very rapidly. New challenges are constantly emerging and evolving. They're often completely innocent, raising awareness of worthy causes or simply providing amusement. However, they can have much more sinister undertones, putting children at risk of physical harm or, in extreme cases, fatal injury.

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What parents need to know about ONLINE CHALLENGES

MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

As well as having the potential to cause actual physical harm, some challenges can be extremely upsetting for children. Many are created with the sole purpose of instilling fear in an individual in order to coerce them into doing things that could have a long-term emotional effect on them.

VARYING LEVELS OF RISK

As a parent or carer, it's important to take a balanced view and understand that not everything online has the potential to do harm. Mass-following and interaction can be a force for good. For example, the Ice Bucket Challenge, which swept the nation, set out to raise money and awareness of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS). At its height, over 28 million people uploaded, commented on, or liked Ice Bucket Challenge related posts on Facebook. It's equally important to be aware though that online challenges often have a darker side. Malicious trends and challenges can expose children to dangerous or even life-threatening situations, so it's critical that parents and carers are aware of the latest risks and understand what steps to take to mitigate them.

'FOMO' - FEAR OF MISSING OUT

The 'Fear of Missing Out' (FOMO) is a strong emotional characteristic, particularly displayed in young people. The nature of viral challenges encourages children to explore and push boundaries. They tap into FOMO by feeding on a child's natural desire to join in, be accepted and share experiences with their friends and the wider online community. A recent study also found that FOMO is one of the greatest causes of Social Media addiction.



STRIVING FOR LIKES

In a major study by the Children's Commissioner, it was found that children as young as ten years old are reliant on 'Likes' for their sense of self-worth. A major concern around viral challenges is not knowing how far children will go to earn 'Likes'. Couple this growing appetite for acceptance with commonplace peer pressure and the potential problem is compounded. The result is that when young people are drawn into online challenges, because it is what all their friends are doing, saying 'no' can seem like a very hard thing to do.

"The coolest person at school will start a trend and then everyone copies her"
Merran, 12, Year 7

"If I got 150 likes, I'd be like that's pretty cool it means they like you"
Aaron, 11, Year 7



National
Online
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Top Tips for Parents



COMMUNICATION & MONITORING

It's important to talk to your child regularly and monitor their online activities. Encouraging honesty and openness, will give you a much clearer viewpoint of how your child is interacting online and what concerns they have. Create an atmosphere of trust. Ensure they feel they can confide in you or another trusted adult regarding anything they may have seen or experienced online that's upset them.

THINK BEFORE ACTING

As with most concerns in life, let common sense prevail when it comes to Viral Challenges. Young people need the freedom and space to explore and going in all guns blazing may well be counter-effective. Address the importance of safety and wellbeing, both online and offline, by getting the facts and understanding the risks. Start a discussion about the Online Challenges that may have captured your child's interest, gauge their likely involvement and explain the importance of thinking and acting independently when it comes to participating.

SETTING UP EFFECTIVE PARENTAL CONTROLS

As with all online activity, ensuring you have effective parental controls set up on all devices will help filter and restrict the dangerous or inappropriate content you don't wish your child to access. Additional measures for protecting your child include checking the privacy settings on your child's devices, monitoring their friends list, ensuring their personal information is safe and secure and keeping a watchful eye on the content they're sharing.

REPORTING & BLOCKING

Parental controls can only go so far in blocking potentially harmful content. A rise in the decoding of social media algorithms, has led to age inappropriate content increasingly appearing on platforms and apps used by children. Where possible, you should regularly monitor what your child sees online and flag/report any content which is inappropriate or dangerous. You should take the time to talk to your child, define what you consider to be appropriate content and show them how to report and block users/accounts themselves.

VALIDATE SOURCES

Not everything is as it seems. Some people create fake content that's designed to 'shock' in order to encourage rapid sharing. If your child has seen something online that has triggered concern you should encourage them to, check its origin, verify that it came from a credible source and check the comments made for any clues to its validity.

FACING REALITY

Trends and Viral Challenges can be tempting for children to take part in; no matter how dangerous or scary they may seem. As a parent or carer it can be difficult to keep pace with the very latest Online Challenges emerging. In recent months these have included potentially dangerous crazes, including the 'Bird Box' challenge, which was inspired by Netflix's popular film and encourages followers to upload videos of themselves attempting everyday tasks while blindfolded. The best advice is to keep talking to your child. Show that you're taking an interest and not just prying. Ensure your child knows they don't have to get involved and if they're unsure, let them know you're there to talk before they consider participating. Children often need reassurance that not everything they see online is real. If your child has viewed distressing or frightening content it's important to talk to them about their experience, support them and, if required, help them find additional support.



Southwark adult learning Service
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Alpha Street London SE15 4NX

For more information and to
book a place please contact
Kate Bagnall
Family Learning Manager

Kate.Bagnall@southwark.gov.uk

phone
020 7358 2100



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Spring 2023

@ Thomas Carlton Centre
Corner of Choumert Road and Alpha Street

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Booking essential for all courses



Course Title	Code	Venue	Day	Time	Start date	Weeks	Materials
Reduce, reuse and recycle -creative fun for all the family	FL2003	TC	Monday	1pm-3.30pm	13/02/23	1	Nil
Reduce, reuse and recycle -creative fun for all the family	FL2004	TC	Tuesday	1pm-3.30pm	14/02/23	1	Nil
Family learning -Creative Creatures fun for all the family	FL2010	TC	Saturday	12pm-2.30pm	04/03/23	2	Nil
Family Textiles - Exploring textiles, suitable for all ages. Each week we will develop a different textile skill	FL2015	TC	Monday	4pm-5.30pm	20/02/23	5	Nil