

JANUARY 27TH 2023

ST MARY'S NEWS

Dear Parent,

We have lots of exciting events coming up in the next month or two. Please take time to put key dates in your diary.

Parent's evenings will take place in the week commencing the 6th February. Parents often ask whether they should bring their child or not. We are happy for you to decide whether you would prefer to attend with or without them. Booking links will be sent out on Monday next week.

In the last few weeks many children have been asked to come and show me their excellent work. It has been a pleasure to talk about their learning with them. This includes examples of home learning where children have clearly taken a lot of time and effort to produce their maps, models and posters. Thank you for all your support in helping them with this!

This term, staff have also been focussing on noticing pupils when they achieve something in one of the four areas that we feel help us to build a caring community at school. The poster below is displayed in school to remind us of what these are.

There have been many certificates awarded each week in celebration assembly including:

Year 5 - Leland and Harrison - caring for our world by helping to clear the playground.

Year 4 - Poppy - Sharing ideas about how to look after others and ourselves

Reception Class - Theo - asking thoughtful questions during a reflective activity



New KS1 maths activity project:

We are taking part in a project with the NCETM (National Centre for Excellence in Teaching Mathematics). We will be running a workshop for each class after half term. After a brief explanation in the hall there will be activities set up in the classroom for you and your child to enjoy. A grandparent or family member is welcome to attend in your place if you are unable to come.

Reception Class - Thursday 23rd February 2:15-3:15

Year 1 - Monday 20th February 2:15-3:15

Year 2 - Wednesday 22nd February 2:15-3:15

NSPCC Number day is next week - 3rd Feb pupils can come in recycled/upcycled items such as a Times Table Rock Star / a Numbots avatar or choose to add numbers to hats or clothing. Children will be doing fun number based activities during the day. Voluntary donations to the NSPCC are welcome.



Safer internet day is on February 7th. We will be looking at ways to keep safe and protect our well-being and health whilst online. We will have some leaflets and help for the parents as well which we will give out during our parent's evening meetings which fall on the same day.

Our annual **Book Week** will run from the 27th to the 3rd March this year. During the week, we will be visiting Bridport Library, we will have a visit from the Book Shop in Bridport (who will be providing us with some competitions to enter), we will also be sharing stories and poetry with children from other year groups as our audience. On World Book Day itself, which is the 2nd of March, we will be asking children to dress as their favourite characters from a book or to bring in their favourite book from home if they would rather not dress up. Please re-use a costume from home or try to create a character with just 3 items for us to guess rather than spending a lot on a new costume.

REMINDER SPRING TERM DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 2nd February- **KS2 Pantomime** 1pm-4pm
- 3rd February -**NSPCC Number Day**
- 7th February -**Year 6 Parent Topic Event** 2:45-3:15
- 7th February -**Parent's evening** 3:15-19:00 - booking links will be sent out shortly
- 8th February -**Parent's evening** 3:15-19:00 - booking links will be sent out shortly
- 8th February – **Futsal Year 3/4** (selected children to go to Colfox)
- 10th February – **INSET DAY**
- 10th - 19th February **HALF TERM**
- 1st March - **School discos** - further information on timings will be sent out via the PTA
- 2nd March - **World Book Day**
- 17th March - **Comic Relief and St Mary's Got Talent**
- 29th March - **Spring Show**
- 29th March **Easter Service** 2:15 at St Mary's Church
- 1st April - start of the **EASTER HOLIDAYS**

12 Top Tips for BUILDING CYBER RESILIENCE AT HOME

As a society, we're increasingly using technology and tech services in the home. Digital assistants which can adjust the heating or turn lights on and off; streaming services for shows and movies on demand; games consoles; smart speakers; phones; laptops ... the list goes on. As we introduce each new gizmo to our homes, however, we increase the level of threat from cyber criminals. It's essential, therefore, that we learn to become more cyber resilient in relation to the devices and digital services that the people in our household use.

WHAT IS 'CYBER RESILIENCE'?

Cyber resilience focuses on three key areas: reducing the likelihood of a cyber attack gaining access to our accounts, devices or data; reducing the potential impact of a cyber incident; and making the recovery from a cyber attack easier, should we ever fall victim to one.

1. PASSWORDS: LONGER AND LESS PREDICTABLE

The longer, less common and predictable a password is, the more difficult it becomes for cyber criminals to crack. The National Cyber Security Centre's 'three random words' guidelines are ideal for creating a long password which is easy to remember but hard to guess.

2. AVOID RE-USING PASSWORDS

When you use the same password across different logins, your cyber resilience is only as strong as the security of the weakest site or service you've signed up for. If cyber criminals gain access your username and password for one site or service, they'll definitely try them on others.

3. USE A PASSWORD MANAGER

A good way to juggle different passwords for every site or service you use is to have a password manager. This software stores all your passwords for you, so you simply need to remember the master password. LastPass, Dashlane, 1Password and Keeper are all excellent password managers.

4. BACK UP YOUR DATA

Keep a copy of your data using OneDrive, Google Drive or another reputable cloud-based storage solution. If it's extremely important or sensitive information, you could even decide to keep more than one back-up version - by saving it to a removable USB drive or similar device, for example.

5. ENABLE MULTI-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION (MFA)

Multi-factor authentication is where you need access to your phone (to receive a code, for example) or another source to confirm your identity. This makes it far more difficult for cyber criminals to gain entry to your accounts and your data, even if they do manage to get your username and password.

6. CHOOSE RECOVERY QUESTIONS WISELY

Some services let you set 'recovery questions' - such as your birthplace or a pet's name - in case you forget your password. Take care not to use information you might have mentioned (or are likely to in future) on social media. More unpredictable answers make cyber criminals' task far harder.

7. SET UP SECONDARY ACCOUNTS

Some services provide the facility to add secondary accounts, phone numbers and so on to help with potentially recovering your account. Make sure you set these up: they will be vital if you're having trouble logging in or if you're trying to take back control of your account after a cyber attack.

12. STAY SCEPTICAL

Cyber criminals commonly use various methods, including emails, text messages and social media posts. Be cautious of any messages or posts that are out of the ordinary, offer something too good to be true or emphasise urgency - even if they appear to come from someone you know.

11. KEEP HOME DEVICES UPDATED

Download official software updates for your household's mobile phones, laptops, consoles and other internet-enabled devices regularly. Security improvements and fixes are a key feature of these updates - so by ensuring each device is running the latest version, you're making them more secure.

10. CHANGE DEFAULT IOT PASSWORDS

Devices from the 'Internet of Things' (IoT), such as 'smart' home appliances, are often supplied with default passwords. This makes them quicker to set up, but also less secure - criminals can identify these standard passwords more easily, so change them on your IoT devices as soon as possible.

9. CHECK FOR BREACHES

You can check if your personal information has been involved in any known data breaches by entering your email address at www.haveibeenpwned.com (yes, that spelling is correct!). It's useful if you're worried about a possible attack - or simply as motivation to review your account security.

8. KEEP HAVING FUN WITH TECH

Consider our tips in relation to the gadgets and online services your household uses. Protect yourself and your family, and don't let the bad guys win: devices are not only integral to modern life but also a lot of fun - so as long as you keep safety and security in mind, don't stop enjoying your tech.

Meet Our Expert

Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at a large boarding school in the UK, having previously taught in schools and colleges in Britain and the Middle East. With a particular interest in digital citizenship and cyber security, he believes it is essential that adults and children alike become more aware of the risks associated with technology, as well as the many benefits.



#WakeUpWednesday

Source: www.ncsc.gov.uk/collection/top-tips-for-staying-secure-online/three-random-word | <https://haveibeenpwned.com>



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