

Spalding St Paul's Primary



Growing together to be Proud of everything we do

Personal Excellence

Respect

Opportunities

Uniqueness

Discovery

Date: February 2022

School Information

Email:

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Website:

<http://www.spaldingstpauls-cit.co.uk>



@SpaldingStPauls

facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/spaldingstpaulscit>

Half Term

We break up for half term on Friday. I hope you all have a safe, healthy and happy break. We look forward to hearing about half term adventures when school re-opens on Monday 21st February 2022.

Don't forget to follow the school on Facebook and Twitter where we share all the exciting things your children have been doing in school.



Also, make sure you sign up to class Dojo where you can see the points your child is earning over the week and some more exciting pictures of what is happening in class.

Being Kind to one another

We have received some reports regarding parents being verbally aggressive towards other parents on the playgrounds. In line with our ethos in school, please can all parents and carers treat one another with politeness and courtesy whilst on school site.

In advance, thank you for your support with this.

Assemblies.

After half term we hope to go back to whole school assemblies. This is an opportunity for all of the school to get together and celebrate all the wonderful things in our school.

Clubs

Clubs will begin again in the summer term. We know this is disappointing for the children but we have taken this decision to keep the staff and children safe. We will send out club letters later next term.

Calendar dates

Please remember all school dates are on the school website: Parent Zone - Calendar.



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Homework

This term we have been reviewing the homework policy.

From next term, all homework will be posted on your child's Class Dojo page each week. Please to ensure you have access to Dojo. You can speak to your child's class teacher to set this up if you have not already.

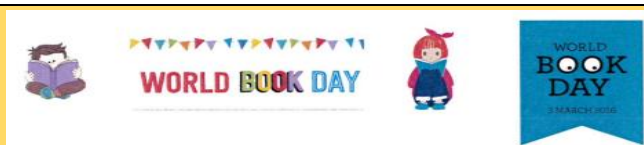
Homework will be posted on a Friday and we expect the work to be completed by the following Wednesday.

You can upload the homework onto Dojo via portfolio (this can be work, photos, videos etc) or you can bring your completed work in your homework books.

We have emailed parents the codes and also sent a paper copy home with your child on how to upload work.

If you are experiencing any difficulties with this please do not hesitate to get in contact with a member of staff who will be happy to help you.

This is a trial period for both parents and staff, so your feedback with this will be greatly appreciated.



World book day takes place on Thursday 3rd March.

Over the week we will be doing lots of exciting activities related to book and on Thursday we would like to children to dress up as their favourite book character. There is no expectation for you to buy a costume for the day - homemade costumes are as much as fun bought ones, and we are aware not all children enjoy dressing up, so this activity is optional.

At 2:30pm on World Book Day, we would like to invite parents into school to come and read with their child and look at the lovely activities the children have been doing over the week.

At the end of the day, the children will be given a £1 World Book Day token which can be exchanged for a book at many bookshops or can be used to get money off any book... a great excuse to read something new!

If you need to report a safeguarding concern about a child, please call Lincolnshire County Council 01522 782111



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

TIKTOK

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

TikTok is a video-sharing social media app which lets people create, view and download looping 15-second clips. Typically, these are videos of users lip-syncing and dancing to popular songs or soundbites (often for comic purposes), enhanced with filters, effects and text. Designed with young people in mind, TikTok skyrocketed in popularity in 2019 and has featured near the top of download charts ever since. It now has around a billion users worldwide.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Most videos appearing on a child's feed are light-hearted and amusing. However, some clips have been reported for featuring drug and alcohol abuse, themes of suicide and self-harm, or young teens acting in a sexually suggestive way. The sheer volume of uploads is impossible to moderate entirely – and since TikTok Jump's introduction in mid-2021, users can view third-party content outside the app.



EXPLICIT SONGS

TikTok primarily revolves around videos of users lip-syncing and dancing to music. Inevitably, some featured songs will contain explicit or suggestive lyrics. Given the app's young user-base, there is a risk that children may view older users' videos and then be inclined to imitate any explicit language or suggestive actions.



TIKTOK FAME

The app has created its own celebrities: Charli D'Amelio and Lil Nas X, for example, were catapulted to fame by exposure on TikTok – leading to many more teens attempting to go viral and become "TikTok famous". While most aspiring stars hoping to be "the next big thing" will find it difficult, setbacks may in turn prompt them to go to even more drastic lengths to get noticed.



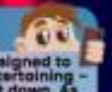
HAZARDOUS VISIBILITY

Connecting with others is simple on TikTok – including commenting on and reacting to users' videos, following their profile and downloading their content. The majority of these interactions are harmless, but – because of its abundance of teen users – TikTok has experienced problems with predators contacting young people.



ADDICTIVE NATURE

Like all social media, TikTok is designed to be addictive, it can be hugely entertaining – but that also makes it hard to put down. As well as the punchy nature of the short video format, the app's ability to keep users intrigued about what's coming next mean it's easy for a 5-minute visit to turn into a 45-minute stay.



IN-APP SPENDING

There's an in-app option to purchase "TikTok coins", which are then converted into digital rewards for sending to content creators that a user likes. Prices range from 5p to an eye-watering £55 bundle. TikTok is also connected with Shopify, which allows users to buy products through the app.



Advice for Parents & Carers

TALK ABOUT ONLINE CONTENT

Assuming your child is above TikTok's age limit, talk to them about what they've viewed on the app. Ask their opinion on what's appropriate and what isn't. Explain why they shouldn't give out personal details or upload videos which reveal information like their school or home address. In the long run, teaching them to think critically about what they see on TikTok could help them to become social-media savvy.

MAINTAIN PRIVACY SETTINGS

The default setting for all under 18s' accounts to 'private'. Keeping it that way is the safest solution: it means only users who your child approves can watch their videos. The "Stitch" (which lets users splice clips from other people's videos into their own) and "Duet" (where you build on another user's content by recording your own video alongside their original) features are now only available to over 18s. This might clash with your child's ambitions of social media stardom, but it will fortify their account against predators.

LEARN ABOUT REPORTING AND BLOCKING

With the correct privacy settings applied, TikTok is a relatively safe space. However, in case something does slip through, make sure your child knows how to recognise and report inappropriate content and get them to come to you about anything upsetting that they've seen. TikTok allows users to report anyone breaching its guidelines, while you can also block individual users through their profile.

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

"Family Pairing" lets parents and carers link their own TikTok account to their child's. Through your mobile, you can control your child's safety settings remotely – including limiting screen time, managing their ability to exchange messages (and with whom) and blocking a lot of age-inappropriate content. TikTok's Safety Centre also provides resources for parents and carers to support online safety among families. These resources can be found on their website.

USE RESTRICTED MODE

In the app's "Digital Wellbeing" section, you can filter out inappropriate content (specific content creators or hashtags, for instance) using "Restricted Mode". This can then be locked with a PIN. You should note, though, that the algorithm moderating content isn't totally dependable – so it's wise to stay aware of what your child is watching.

MODERATE SCREEN TIME

As entertaining as TikTok is, you can help your child to manage their time on it in the "Digital Wellbeing" section. Under "Screen Time Management", you can limit the daily permitted time on the app (in increments ranging from 40 minutes to two hours). This preference can also be locked behind a PIN. That way, your child can get their regular dose of TikTok without wasting the whole day.

Meet Our Expert

Parven Kaur is a social media expert and digital media consultant who is passionate about improving digital literacy for parents and children. She has extensive experience in the social media arena and is the founder of Kids N Clicks: a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.



SOURCES: TikTok.com

www.nationalonlinesafety.com @nationalonlinesafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

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