



Newsletter

'Love the lord your God with all your heart,
with all your soul, and with all your mind.'



'The Lord our God, the Lord is one.'
Deuteronomy 6:4

Issue 10 – Friday 12th February 2021

Our Christian Value for
February is – Courage



Dear Parents and Carers

It is hard to believe that today marks the end of another half term and that we are now half way through the school year! We know it has been a challenging term for everyone and we think you have done such a wonderful job supporting the children with their home learning. It has been lovely watching the 'live' lessons and seeing the children working so hard at home. Class teachers continue to be amazed with the quality of work produced, we are so proud of everyone. Children of our key worker families have also been working hard in school and enjoying the live lessons. We all hope that schools will be able to reopen on Monday, 8th March to all our children.

As you will be aware, the Department for Education have said that schools will be closed over the February half-term. Children, staff and parents have all been working extremely hard over the past six weeks and will welcome a short break. We hope for good weather and that you will be able to get outdoors and enjoy some much needed relaxation.



Merit Badge Awards

The following children have been working exceptionally hard and have achieved their merit awards.

Bronze Award (50 Merits):

Mikey, Sophia, Olivia, Owen, Marley, Corey, Esmee, Arabella, Safia, Ella, Eleanor, Declan, Dexter, Missy, Danial

Silver Award (100 Merits):

Ava S, Romilly, Kieran, Orla, Isla S, Lottie M, Oliver M, David, Verity

Online Safety – TikTok

TikTok is a social media app which previously operated under Musical.ly. Within this app, children are able to watch musical video clips, create their own short clips and add special effects to them. They are then able to share their 60 second videos with friends, family or the entire world. The recommended age for users is 13 years old.



Current concerns surrounding TikTok and how to keep children safe:

- When users sign up, their account becomes public by default, so everyone can see what they share. Make sure that accounts are set to 'Private'. This can be done in the in the settings section.
- Young people are posting videos and offering up personal information – eg; posting videos while wearing school uniform. Please ensure that you speak with children about the dangers that this can pose.
- Parents have expressed concerns about the inappropriate content posted by other users. You can enable 'restricted mode' to help to filter this out.

Inappropriate content isn't restricted to TikTok alone, it can be on any social media platform and the advice to children who may have seen something upsetting online is:

Stop – if you come across any upsetting material online, stop what you are doing and turn off the phone, tablet or TV.

Think – try not to think about what you have seen in great detail, and remind yourself that the film is not real, there is no immediate danger and you are safe.

Talk – talk to someone about what you have seen in the movie or online with a trusted adult rather than other children.

- Various video challenges often circulate within the app, encouraging users to do dangerous or inappropriate things.
- TikTok does not have strong enough policies in place regarding user privacy and security or sharing information.
- Young people are spending large amounts of money on the app and its features.
- We advise parents to check their children's online accounts and to talk to children regularly about how to report anything that they find inappropriate.
- Ask children regularly about where they are visiting online and check their security and privacy settings within these apps and sites.

For more information, please visit www.net-aware.org.uk.

Safeguarding

If you ever have any concerns regarding the safety and wellbeing of our children, please contact the school and ask for Mr Jones, Mrs Hancock or Mrs Hankins (Designated Safeguarding Leads).

I hope you all have a good half-term break. Thank you all for the kind messages we have been receiving about our remote learning offer, it means such a lot to everyone.

Take care and stay safe.

Mr Jones