

Ely St John's Newsletter

End of February 2019

Dates from The Friends



Mon 25th Feb - next meeting 7.30pm at school (teachers this will mainly be forms/film night prep please don't feel you have to turn out for this one)

Fri 15th March - Film night all years (letter will go out after half term)

Sat 8th June - Fete and Car Boot 12-3pm (set up from 9am)

Fri 21st June - Disco all years and year 6 leavers disco

Fri 19th July - End of term family picnic.

Updated Behaviour Policy

We have updated our Behaviour Policy in the light of recent training and work in school, which included a survey to pupils on rewards systems. The updated policy is now on the website and in the coming months we will be holding an evening to present the policy and some of the updated strategies we use to support children and to ensure any consequences include opportunities for learning.

Beresford Road Survey

A thank you from the Governors to those of you who completed our survey on Beresford Road. Governors will communicate with you shortly about the results of the survey and next steps.

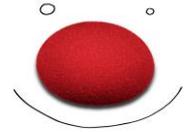
MESSAGE FROM ESJ SCHOOL COUNCIL:

World Book Day—Thursday 7th March 2019!

This year the ESJ School Council has chosen to do a Mix' n' Match dressing up theme!!! Mix'N'Match means that the children of Ely St John's will get the choice to either come in to school, 'snuggling up in their pyjamas,' or dressed up as their favourite book character.

Please also support our fundraising efforts by donating unwanted children's books (for ages 4 to 12) for us to sell on World Book Day for the price of 10p. All money will go towards our Recycling Project this year. Late donations of books for older children welcome by Tuesday 6th March!

Red Nose Day is on Friday 15th March. Again children may donate £1 to the charity by way of coming in non - school uniform. The chosen theme is 'Wear Something Red' but please do not buy anything specially - non- uniform will do. Red Noses may be worn on the



day as the something red, if nothing else comes to hand.

E-Safety updates

Today's world is challenging at the best of times for our children and it seems that every day there is a new game or app that is putting our children at risk. National Online Safety have produced a number of parent guides that may prove useful. Please note that this advice is general and parents need to decide, knowing their child's online habits and level, which are relevant. However we often find children are doing more than parents are often aware of. Certainly many of our children at ESJ are involved in using ones listed below, particularly snapchat; fortnite and Tik Tok and are frequently on You Tube despite the age restrictions. **Parents of younger children may want to install YouTube Kids. This is a more controlled version of YouTube intended for families, for better control of what young children may come across online.**

Here are updates from National Online Safety:

Fortnite

<https://2j39y52a62gm1afygb3g1xbu-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Fortnite-Parents-Guide-051218.pdf>

TIK TOK (formally known as Musical.ly)

<https://2j39y52a62gm1afygb3g1xbu-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Tik-Tok-Parents-Guide-October-2018-v2.pdf>

Snapchat

<https://2j39y52a62gm1afygb3g1xbu-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Snapchat-Parents-Guide-V2-081118.pdf>

Here is another potential threat the Education Safeguarding Team has alerted us to:

The Momo challenge is the latest in a series of online challenges that emerge and cause enormous concern. Sometimes the challenges are more myth than reality but that doesn't reduce the worry. In this article, we answer some of the questions you may have.

What is the Momo Challenge? The Momo character — the disfigured face attached to a bird's body — was, in fact, a prop named 'Mother Bird' made in Japan three years ago for an art exhibition. Its sinister stretched features make for a disturbing image that could easily upset or worry a younger child. The Momo challenge is allegedly 'played' over WhatsApp. The Momo character asks would-be participants to contact 'her' and do a series of challenges — the final challenge being suicide. Of course, the evidence for this behaviour happening is limited — there isn't much evidence of a child actually being harmed and what seems to be happening is that the image is spreading because people are using the image in their profiles.

What should parents do? Although the Momo challenge appears to be more fear than fact, it's important that parents talk to their children about it. The best way to start is to ask a general question about whether they have seen anything online that upset or worried them. Explain that there are often things that happen online that can be misleading or frightening and that some things are designed to get a lot of attention.

Parents need to follow their child's lead — introducing the idea of the Momo challenge to a child who isn't familiar with it might lead them to investigate. On the other hand, avoiding mentioning it won't provide a chance for a good discussion.

Take your child's lead and whatever you decide about overtly talking about Momo, make sure that they know that contacting strangers and doing anything at all that they are asked to do online or off that makes them feel scared, worried or uncomfortable is not OK.

How do children get to know about it? Children are hearing about the challenge through numerous sources online — the coverage that is happening in the news and on social media is also leading to old fashioned playground curiosity. It's important to remember that the hype around these crazes often leads children to investigate for themselves even if they haven't had direct contact.

Why would children be drawn to it? There are lots of reasons for children to be drawn towards these challenges even ones that subsequently turn out to be nothing more than urban myth. The drama can be enticing especially when a popular Influencer or gamer is talking about it online.

Is it something to worry about? Recently, the Momo challenge has been covered extensively in the news and the disfigured avatar has been popping up all over the internet. It's important to know that there isn't much evidence of there being harm to children aside from the upset caused when a child sees a disturbing image or hears about something that sounds frightening. However, there is no doubt that the Momo phenomenon has reached the UK, so it is something that parents need to be familiar with and ready to talk about with their child.



EVENTS CALENDAR 2019

Spring Term

March

- 18: Year 3 to Great Cressingham Victorian School
- 19: Year 3 to Great Cressingham Victorian School
- 27: Dental Check for selected 5 yr olds (11am to Lunchtime)

April

- 3-5: Yr4 to Hilltop
- 5: Spring Term Ends
- 24: Summer Term Opens

SHARING

1 st March	8 th March	15 th March	22 nd March
Mrs Fretwell	Mrs Geeson & Mrs Pixley	Mrs Tipping	Mrs Hambley & Mrs Grant
Mr Henson & Mrs Turner	Mrs Powell	Miss Goodman	Mrs Pitt & Mrs Jähnigen

ASSEMBLY DATES