



## March Newsletter 16/03/2023

We have certainly seen a range of weather over the last couple of weeks and lots of exciting things happening including the InMAT Big Sing and Atomic Science workshops!!

The children have continued to enjoy learning and have been working hard in all areas of learning, it really is great to see so many Dojo certificates being given out on a Friday assembly for achieving 50 Dojo points. Our new badges have arrived and I cannot wait to give out these for 100, 200 and 300 Dojos, I am sure that the children will wear them with pride.

Thank you to those families that attended the phonics workshops last week for Reception and Year 1, I hope you found these useful and informative. Please see dates below for further workshops in school. Thank you for your continued support, daily reading at home with the children is incredibly beneficial. Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Powell

Head Teacher

## Staff Update



I am pleased to inform you that we have successfully appointed a Deputy Head Teacher who will be starting at our school after Easter. Mrs. Melissa Eldridge will be joining KPIA and is very much looking forward to meeting everyone and working with us all. She will be visiting the school before Easter so the children will be able to meet her. We have also successfully appointed an Assistant Head who will be joining us on 1st May 2023.



## Dates for you Diary



We have some important dates coming up.

- Year 2 Healthy Eating Workshop Monday 20th March at 2:00pm until 2:45pm
- Year 1 Art Workshop Wednesday 22nd March at 2:30pm
- Reception Trip to Westlodge Farm Thursday 23rd March
- Parents Evening Monday 27th March & Wednesday 29th March. Bookings can now be placed on Arbor via Parents & Guardians and Consultations.
- Year 1 Performance Friday 31st March at 10:30am until 10:50am
- Easter Bonnet Parade Friday 31st March
- Maths Whizz meeting for parents / carers on Tuesday 25th April at 11am and Tuesday 2nd May at 6:30pm. These will both be virtual meetings and will provide you with more information about Maths Whizz and how you can support your child at home with using this. We will send out information on how to book for these meetings before Easter
- Year 2 Phonics Workshop Tuesday 18th April

## Parking



Please be considerate to our neighbours when parking in the surrounding residential areas, we must not block driveways or park on double yellow lines. The Highway Code states: **“You MUST NOT wait or park, or stop to set down and pick up passengers, on school entrance markings.”** we have spoken to the local authority and they will be patrolling the area at pick up and drop off times.

We take this very seriously as cars stopped or parked in the restricted area can hide small children who are about to cross the road and children may not see approaching cars. We all want to keep our children safe. Thank you for your co-operation with this matter.

## Attendance



At Kettering Park Infant Academy, we place great importance on good attendance and punctuality. We know that a child's attendance has a direct impact on their learning. Those children who are regularly absent from school and regularly late do not achieve their potential and do fall behind in class. Please support the school in this by ensuring that your child attends school regularly. We would also like to ask parent to stick to the correct timings when dropping off and collecting children.

### **What to do if your child is absent from school?**

**Contact the school office by 8am and leave a message providing a reason for the absence. If the pupil is to be off school for more than one day then the parent/carer must call and leave a message on each subsequent day. This is integral to our Safeguarding and Attendance Policy.**

Class 1 - 98.3%

Class 2 - 98.7%

Class 3 - 99.2%

Class 4 - 94.4%

Class 5 - 93.3%

Class 6 - 91.6%

Class 7 - 95%

Class 8 - 94.4%

Class 9 - 91.8%

Rainbow Room - 91%

Whole School Attendance - 92%

**Could parents/carers also be reminded to set a good example for our children whilst waiting in the playground. Always be kind and respectful to each other.**

## School Meals



We have noticed some children have not ordered a hot lunch from our provider, Dolce. Our school meals are free to all children at KPIA. If you would like to order a lunch, this can be done on a daily, weekly or termly basis online. If you order your child's lunch daily, you must order by 9am otherwise the order will not go through.

If you need new log in details, or having trouble placing an order please feel free to contact the office.

Reading



We will be starting our RWI assessments next week and reading at home will really enable the progress to be evident.

Reading helps your child's wellbeing, develops imagination and has educational benefits too. Just a few minutes a day can have a big impact on children of all ages. Here are a few tips to support children when reading:

- Make a calm, comfortable place for your family to relax and read independently - or together.
- Try to read to your child every day. It's a special time to snuggle up and enjoy a story. Try adding funny voices to bring characters to life.
- Give children lots of opportunities to read different things in their own time - it doesn't just have to be books. There's fiction, non-fiction, poetry, comics, magazines, recipes and much more. Try leaving interesting reading material in different places around the home and see who picks it up.

## Science Week



Last week we had an exciting visit from a real scientist...ATOMIC TOM! On Wednesday, the whole school came together to meet Tom in an exciting assembly. The children were mesmerized by how Tom made elephants toothpaste by mixing different substances together. There was a huge amount of toothpaste made that exploded like a volcano from the container. Every class took part in a workshop with Tom over the course of the two days. Some classes had fun making slime and some classes looked and many gooey and disgusting things to explore food chains. It was a fantastic two days and the children loved every minute!

Mrs Hayley Middleton



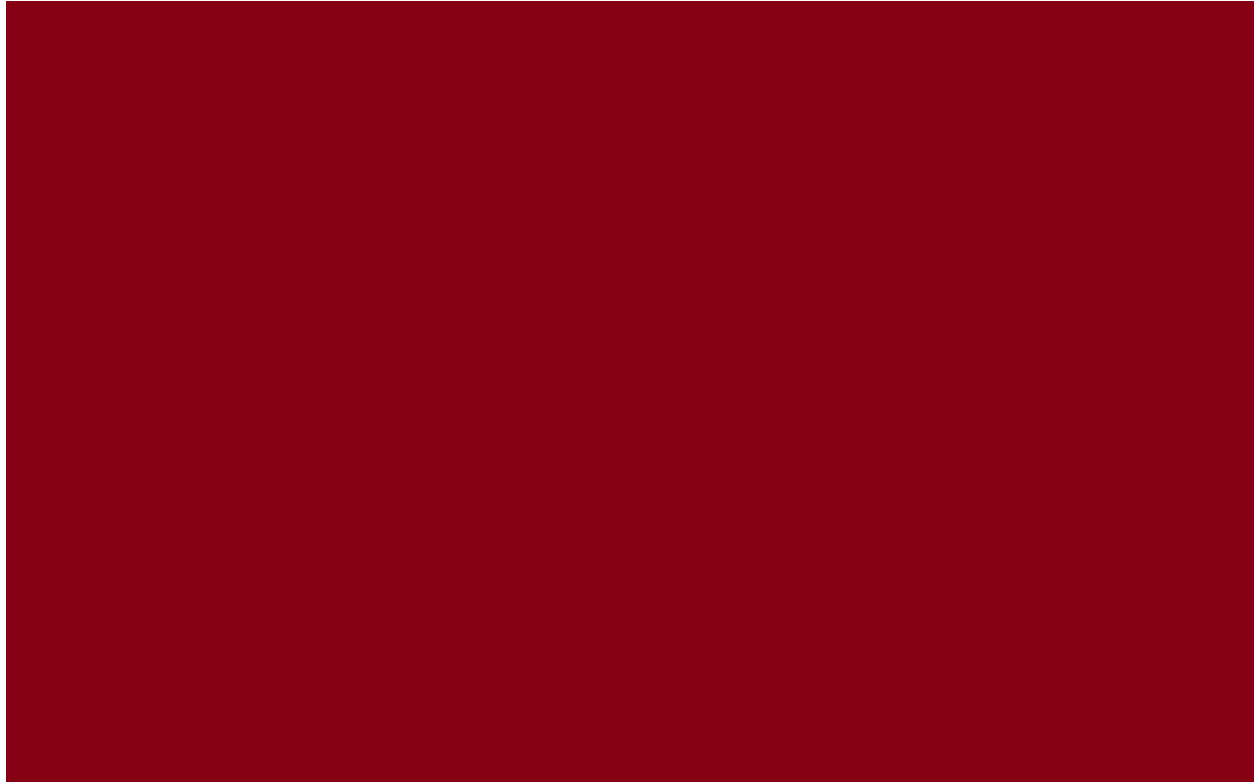
## Big Sing



What a fantastic day we had at the Big Sing last Monday with Year 2! It was a long day but the children were all brilliant. They performed 'The School of Rock' alongside a live band. Despite the fact there was a huge audience watching them the children all tried their best and I'm sure wowed everyone, I know they did us. It was such a great experience and we are all so proud of them.

Miss Gemma Burn

## Online Safety



Key messages for parents to support healthy use of technology are:

- Enforce age limits for online games
- Keep screen devices in shared areas of the house (not the bedroom)
- Report any incidents to school and helplines
- Spend time away from technology
- Socialise outside online games

Please see some amazing tips and advice from National Online Safety, they provide free training courses and resources for parents and carers.

At National Children's Bureau, we believe in supporting parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to help us better understand children's online safety with their children, enabling them to be involved. This guide focuses on one of the most important areas of online safety: digital resilience. It is a resource. This guide focuses on one of the most important areas of online safety: digital resilience. It is a resource.

## Top Tips for Adopting SAFE & HEALTHY ONLINE HABITS

Everyone has so much going on in their lives, and that includes children: from exams and deadlines to anxiety and mental health struggles. It's quite easy to send messages, make plans and vent online about the things that irritate us, but when was the last time you - or your child - took a moment to share something kind or positive instead? In fact, when did you last stop and think about your family's online habits? To help keep them safe and teach them healthy online habits, we need to develop our children's digital resilience. There are lots of ways that children can become more digitally resilient, and we've pulled together some popular strategies here.

### WHAT IS DIGITAL RESILIENCE?

Digital resilience doesn't mean being so tough that nothing gets to you, and it's not about 'putting up with things'. Rather, it's the ability to recover from setbacks. Every one feels sad, worried, scared or upset at times. It's how we respond and adapt to those situations which is important. Digital resilience is a set of skills and choices that keep us safe and happy online, even when we're exposed to something negative or upsetting. Building your child's digital resilience will help reduce the impact of potential risks as they engage with and navigate around the online world.

### REACH OUT FOR SUPPORT

- If you have a problem online, don't be afraid to reach out to specialist people or organisations that could help.
- Follow people on social who have the same values and morals as you.
- You could always talk to a friend, or a trusted adult like a teacher or family member for some advice.

### MAKE POSITIVE LIFESTYLE CHOICES

- Make time for the people and things that make you happy.
- Monitor your screen time and stick to your limits.
- On social media, follow people that make you feel good about yourself - and unfollow the ones who don't.
- Spread some positivity: post good reviews, leave encouraging comments and share good news.

### PUT SAFETY FIRST

- If you see something online that scares or worries you, tell a trusted adult about it as soon as possible.
- You could also report the content that's making you feel uncomfortable to the site or app that you saw it on, so they can look into it.
- Another option is to block the person or the account that's causing you a problem - so you could go one step further by totally deleting the app you were using.

### KEEP YOUR HEALTH IN MIND

- Try to factor in regular breaks offline and away from your screen - ideally, outdoors for some refreshing fresh air.
- Exercise is a brilliant stress-buster: even a walk around the block, a bike ride or a stroll to your local shop can really work wonders.
- Be strict with yourself about putting devices away in plenty of time before bed: they can interfere with a good night's sleep, which is essential for staying healthy.

### GET THINGS CLEAR IN YOUR HEAD

- Ask yourself what kindness online actually looks like. Can you remember the last time someone was kind or supportive towards you online? What did they do?
- Think about how it makes you feel when someone sends you a positive or funny message online.
- What about the opposite: has someone ever been disrespectful to you online? What did they do and how did it make you feel?
- If someone's behaviour online is causing you stress, try to remind yourself of all the steps you can take if a person is being unkind online.

At National Children's Bureau, we believe in supporting parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to help us better understand children's online safety with their children, enabling them to be involved. This guide focuses on one of the most important areas of online safety: digital resilience. It is a resource. This guide focuses on one of the most important areas of online safety: digital resilience. It is a resource.

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about YOUTUBE

YouTube is a video-sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their own videos with a vast range of content - including sport, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a superb space for people to consume content that they're interested in. As a result, this astronomically popular platform has had a huge social impact: influencing online culture on a global scale and creating new celebrities.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed by anyone, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified email ID), but children can still view some material. This can include pornography and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

### HIGH VISIBILITY

Content creators can also be put on the 'recommended' list, which means their videos are more visible to a wider audience. This can be a double-edged sword: while it can help them grow their channel, it also means their content is more likely to be seen by children. Many creators have been criticised for using inappropriate language and imagery, and some have been accused of using children in their videos.

### CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube has a social media platform with which users can connect with other people. This can be a great way to find like-minded people, but it can also be a risk. Children can be contacted by strangers, and some have been reported to have been groomed or exploited. Parents should be aware of the risks and take steps to protect their children.

### TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is famous for its trends and challenges, which can be a lot of fun. However, some challenges can be dangerous or even life-threatening. Parents should be aware of the risks and take steps to protect their children.

### SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched. This can be helpful, but it can also lead to children being exposed to inappropriate content. Parents should be aware of the risks and take steps to protect their children.

### SNEAKY SCAMMERS

YouTube is a popular platform for scammers, who can use the platform to trick children into giving them money or personal information. Parents should be aware of the risks and take steps to protect their children.

### Advice for Parents & Carers

#### APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate content (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence and sexual situations) to underage users. To prevent your child from accessing age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that your child uses to access YouTube.

#### TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows you to monitor what your child is watching, while also displaying their recently watched videos, searches and recommended videos in a secure, safe and healthy way. If you have a Google Family account, you can also monitor your child's screen time and usage. If you don't have a Google Family account, you can still use YouTube with your child, but you won't have access to these features.

#### CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos 'public' or 'private' - so they could be shared with anyone on the internet, or only with people you choose. Comments on videos can also be shared publicly with anyone, or only with people you choose. Parents should be aware of the risks and take steps to protect their children.

#### CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS

YouTube is not the only platform where children can be exposed to inappropriate content. Other platforms like Instagram, Facebook and Twitter also have risks. Parents should be aware of the risks and take steps to protect their children.

#### MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the world's second largest platform for billions of people. Many of them are children. Younger children will spend more time on YouTube than older children. If you have a Google Family account, you can monitor your child's screen time and usage. If you don't have a Google Family account, you can still use YouTube with your child, but you won't have access to these features.

#### LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases, such as channel memberships and Super Chat. Parents should be aware of the risks and take steps to protect their children.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to help an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many devices which we believe should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, tips and tips for schools.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about iPADS

Apple debuted the first iPad in 2010, kickstarting the tablet market, and it remains the best-selling tablet to this day. Although Apple doesn't offer a child-specific version, iPads are hugely popular with youngsters due to their ease of use and endless choice of apps. There's a selection of models, with different-sized screens and distinct features – including the standard iPad, the iPad Air, the iPad Pro, and the iPad mini. Thankfully, they all offer parental controls so you can regulate how your child uses the device – and how long they spend on it.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### PHYSICAL DAMAGE

While some tablets (such as the Amazon Fire Kids) actually come with rugged shock-proof cases, iPads aren't built for rough-and-tumble. They're also more expensive than most other tablets, and any damage your child's iPad suffers could directly impact on your ability to protect the device should it be lost or stolen, especially if it's being used by younger ones.

### SCREEN ADDICTION

The most digital devices, tablets have the potential to become quite addictive. Your child's iPad could be spending too long staring at their iPad, which could lead to temporary mood swings and a loss of interest in more important tasks. If this happens, it's time to take a break – as even three settings and ensure you limit how long they're able to spend on the device each day.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Even if it would never occur to your child to go searching online for age-inappropriate sites, apps or distribution, there's always a possibility that something unexpected will happen. A device that auto-plays or contains inappropriate content (or is targeted at a child) could display on their tablet and give you a shock. You can help prevent this by checking the content settings (see our 'top tips' section below).

### SIRI SUGGESTIONS

The powerful Siri voice assistant (the fundamental operating system of Apple devices) enables you to lock content to restrict inappropriate content – but your child could sometimes get access to some content (or even accidentally or deliberately) by using Siri. Apple's answer to this is to turn off Siri's suggestions in the iPad's settings menu.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Before setting this up, make sure you have a good idea of what you're sharing. It's not just the content of the device, but also the parental controls that you share. You can do this fairly easily by going into the iPad's settings, then going to 'Family Sharing' and then to 'Family Sharing' (if you already have one) or 'Set up Family Sharing'.

### APPLY SOME LIMITS

The 'Screen Time' function allows you to tell the iPad to lock itself at certain periods (or even to lock it down entirely). While 'App Limits' allows you to restrict how long an app can be used for a specified length of time each day, the iPad can display a notification when time has nearly been reached, letting your child manually prepare for the end of their gaming or viewing time.

### STOP ACCIDENTAL SPENDING

To ensure your child isn't an increased source of freedom on their device (without giving yourself a headache), it's worth taking a few steps to ensure your child can't buy or download or buy an app, game or product that needs your approval (or deny) it. This option isn't available if you've set up Family Sharing.

### SET CONTENT AND PRIVACY RESTRICTIONS

The parental controls can stop the iPad from displaying explicit or age-inappropriate content. In particular, you can restrict the ability to download and install apps, and you can restrict permissions which prevent children from changing the iPad's privacy settings once you've selected them.

### TRACK IT DOWN

Just like the iPhone, Apple's iPads have 'Find My' software to help you locate your child's iPad – or indeed, any linked Apple devices that have gone AWOL, including iPhones, watches and AirPods. If you enable 'Find My' in the settings menu, it will display the last known location of an iPad that's been missing, as well as giving you the option to lock a missing iPad that you suspect has been stolen.