



# Weekly Newsletter

FRIDAY 24th MARCH 2023



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# Latest News

Dear Parents and Carers,

We're almost at the end of the Spring Term and I think I need to take this opportunity to publicly thank all the staff here for their 100% commitment and care. They amaze me with their capacity to make school an inclusive, fun and creative place to be while also encouraging the children to do their best throughout the curriculum.

Parent-Teacher meetings have been arranged for Monday 27th—Wednesday 29th March. If you have completed a Google Form, then you should already have your appointment confirmed by text.

<u>When</u>	<u>Who</u>	<u>Link to book</u>
Mon 27th 1:10-6pm	Rec, Year 2, Year 4 & all DRB	<a href="https://forms.gle/LPJENxAG5dbzAYZE6">https://forms.gle/LPJENxAG5dbzAYZE6</a>
Mon 27th & Tues 28th	Year 3, Year 5 and Year 6	<a href="https://forms.gle/jzVXXfbFXqb68jEP6">https://forms.gle/jzVXXfbFXqb68jEP6</a>
Tues 28th & Wed 29th	Year 1	<a href="https://forms.gle/BdRyE2wbDjxrJgAk6">https://forms.gle/BdRyE2wbDjxrJgAk6</a>

## World Down Syndrome Day

Thank you to everyone who wore odd socks to school to celebrate World Down Syndrome Day last Tuesday. Several of our friends at KA have Down Syndrome and it's lovely to reflect on the richness that they bring to our school : their senses of humour, curiosity, creativity and friendships!



## Family Activities and Support

I've updated the pages at the end of this newsletter—about activities and support for families, children and parents. Please check out the links , especially this one <https://sway.office.com/yaQ6W3itHm4L9gTU?ref=Link>

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## Letter with details of all the Easter fun next week!

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you're all well. I'm writing to let you know about plans for Easter activities over the next week.

### Easter Egg Raffle

We will again be organising an Easter Egg raffle this year.

- From Monday 27<sup>th</sup> Children can buy raffle tickets for **50p a strip**. Please send money in an envelope with your child's name and class or buy from the school office.
- Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> will be the last day for buying raffle tickets.
- Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> is own clothes – We are asking for **donations of Easter Eggs** for the raffle if anyone possibly can give them into the office...thank you.

### Easter Hat Parade

We're inviting all the children to make/decorate a hat for Easter and wear it to school on-

- **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March for EYFS**
- **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March or Y1 to Y6**

The children will parade around the Infant playground at **9:15am** so if you'd like to come and watch, we'd love to see you here! There will be two prizes for each class as well as a small chocolate for everyone who takes part.

Please encourage your children to get involved. This is one of our favourite events of the year and we're delighted to be able to do it again.

### Easter Service

Children will be attending church on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> for an Easter service.

### PTFA Easter fun and Movie night

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March – from 4.15pm in the school hall. More information to follow.

### PTFA Easter cake sale

The PTFA will be selling cakes on the Infant playground on Friday from 1.15pm

**School closes for Easter on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> at 1.30pm**

Very best wishes,

Miss CB



For more news, make sure you're following us on Twitter @AshKnotty

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## A letter from Rose Crossland, our local Road Safety Officer:



slower speeds,  
safer streets



Liverpool  
City Council

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Due to a high number of complaints across the city we are having to issue another reminder to motorists about your responsibility as a driver to park responsibly. We need to share the road with all road users, especially the more vulnerable, and allow for safe access for pedestrians and cyclists.

Remember pupils need to see and be seen when crossing the roads so please think seriously about the location of the school and neighbourhood and consider ways you can help as a parent/guardian to improve their road safety.

If you use a vehicle to drop off and pick up your child from School, please consider parking further away from the entrance & exits in a safe legal place and walk the remainder of the journey.

Do Not Park on

- School Keep Clear Zig Zags
- Double/Single Yellow Lines
- Close to junctions / Drop Kerbs
- Near School Crossing Patrol locations
- On Pavements
- Cycle Lanes
- In front of resident driveways

Parking Services and Police may be in attendance near your school do not be abusive as they are doing their jobs at the requests of concerns raised regarding road safety of the pupils.



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**We wish all our Muslim families and friends a very peaceful and prosperous Ramadan.**



If you'd like more information about Ramadan, here are some useful links:

For adults and older children:

<https://muslimhands.org.uk/ramadan/what-is-ramadan>

<https://mcb.org.uk/resources/ramadan-guide-2023/>

For younger children:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/23286976>

<https://www.globetrottinkids.com/ramadan-information-activities-for-kids/>

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/history/article/ramadan#:~:text=Ramadan%20is%20the%20ninth%20month,drinking%2C%20while%20it's%20light%20outside.>

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# What have we been learning?

## Nursery



This week in nursery we have had Stay and Play sessions when our families were invited in to come and see what we do all day in nursery and join in with some of favourite activities. We really enjoyed having mums and dads to play with.

We continued reading Jack and the Beanstalk, we acted it out with puppets and we are also growing some beans in plastic bags on the window. We are looking carefully every day to check if we can see any roots or shoots. We drew pictures and wrote about our favourite parts of the story.

In maths we continued to follow instructions using positional language. We each had our own plastic teddy and we had to follow instructions to "put teddy under your hand or put teddy behind you " etc.

We have been making Easter baskets, sticking on lots of lovely Easter shapes to decorate them and we have been dressing up as Easter Bunnies with bunny ears and collecting a variety of Easter Eggs.

We have been enjoying playing in the Pet Shop/Vets. practising our writing skills writing appointments and prescriptions for our sick animals.

In PE we played lots of fun games- Traffic Lights, Shops and The Bean Game. We are getting very good at listening and following instructions.

We went for our first run round the running track. Some of us found a new skill and didn't want to stop! We also went on the adventure playground for the first time and we all had a go at climbing over the big climbing frame - we were very brave.

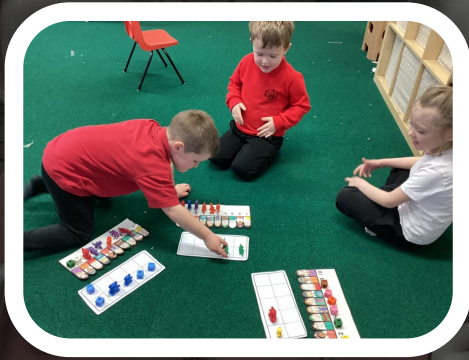
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# What have we been learning?

## Reception



This week, Reception have continued with their topic of Traditional Tales and Fairytales. We have been learning about 'Goodies' and 'Baddies' and looking at characters, settings and how to create our own stories. The children have also really engaged in the traditional tales from last week with lots of small world play such as building bridges and being the troll and goats from The Three Billy Goats Gruff story.

In maths we have been playing number bonds to 10 games. The children have really enjoyed this and have been playing with their friends. This has also lead us into our newer maths topic of subtraction.

Thank you to parents who were able to make our 'Stay and Play' after school club every Monday. Due to parents evening, there won't be one on next week but I will look at doing this again after the Easter break.

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# What have we been learning?

## Year 1

Sorry... photos next week



We have been extremely busy in Year 1 this week. The week started off with forest school on Monday. On Tuesday the children enjoyed their weekly BSL lesson and made Easter baskets for their Easter egg hunt next week. In Communities and Diversity, the children focused on hot and cold climates around the world and what animals live in these climates. They also chose their favourite animal and wrote a fact file about their animal. They needed to include things like where the animal lived, what they ate, what type of animal they were and some interesting facts. The children continued learning animals in Spanish. In PE the children practiced their hockey skills. They focused on holding a hockey stick, passing the ball and dribbling. The children also attempted to run half a mile around the running track.

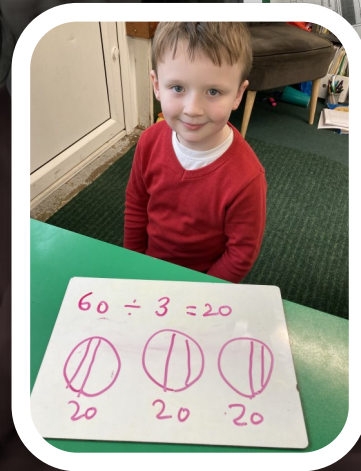
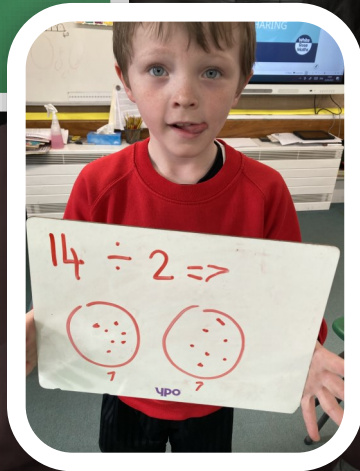
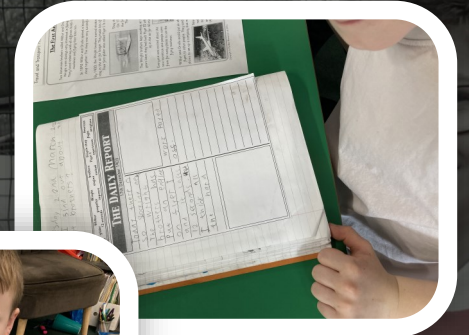
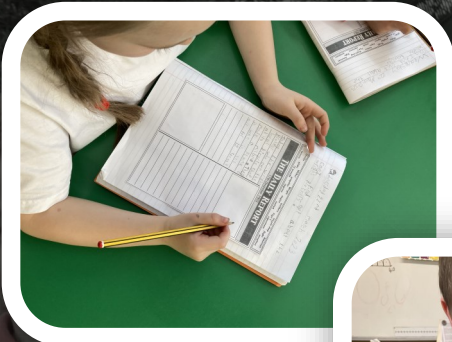
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# What have we been learning?

## Year 2



This week the children have been continuing their investigation into explorers! They have enjoyed researching the adventures of Amelia Earhart. A big thank you to Sophie for bringing in her lovely book from home, we really enjoyed reading it together! The children were fascinated by Amelia's story and her bravery!

Following on from this they children were interested to find out about the first aeroplane and how they have developed over time. They looked at time lines and how planes have changed over the years. They found out all about the Wright brothers and wrote their own newspaper report on the first aeroplane.

In maths, the children have been continuing their work on multiplication and division! They have worked very hard solving division problems! Their determination this week has really impressed me!

The children have had a lovely week getting to know our Year 2 student teacher, Miss Davies! I'm sure you will all have the chance to meet her over the coming weeks.

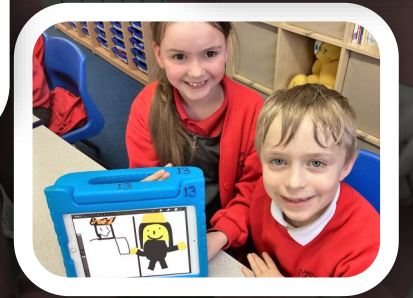
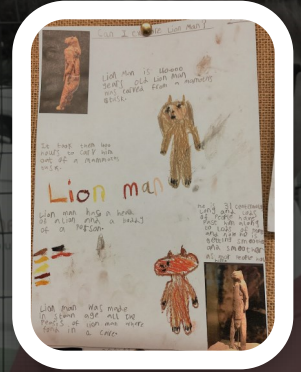
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# What have we been learning?

## Year 3



It's been a brilliant week of prehistoric fun in Year 3! We've explored natural resources and fossils in Science, making a mini 'Book Art' to show each stage of fossilisation of an ammonite. In Art, we've enjoyed investigating and drawing 'Lion Man', a unique sculpture carefully carved from a mammoth's tusk 40,000 years ago. We are looking at stories in English and used our imaginations (and wonderful vocabulary) to write about woolly mammoth slowly thawing from a block of ice! In Reading Explorers, we became captivated by the first part of 'Stig of the Dump' and can't wait to hear more - it was left on a real cliffhanger!

We came right back to modern times in Computing, using different tools on the iPads to creating digital art with Mr Mills, and continued to learn about multiplication and length in Maths. We also rocked in our odd socks on Tuesday to celebrate our differences for World Down Syndrome Day. Finally, we had a lovely surprise in the post this week! Our postman delivered a special letter from Kamila who had written to say how much she likes being in Year 3 with all her friends - thank you Kamila!

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# What have we been learning?

## Year 4



We have had a lovely week in Year 4! It has been so busy and we even started learning how to play chess. We finished off our booklets on the different types of rocks and have really enjoyed exploring Mrs Cartwright's collection! Anything she doesn't know about rocks, is not worth knowing – some would say she is as wise as Master Yoda when it comes to geology! Furthermore, we finished the week by learning about fossils and how they are made over time! They are only ever found in the layers of sedimentary rocks. We then made our own fossils out of soft clay and dinosaurs... toy dinosaurs. The children enjoyed their last week of swimming and then smashed their first week of chess by beginning to learn about the pesky chess piece we call a pawn! Well done everybody, only one week to go!

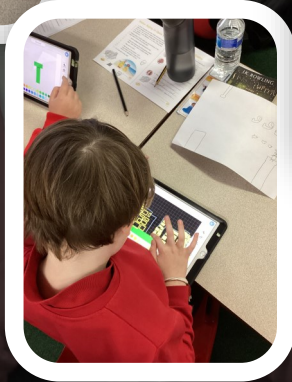
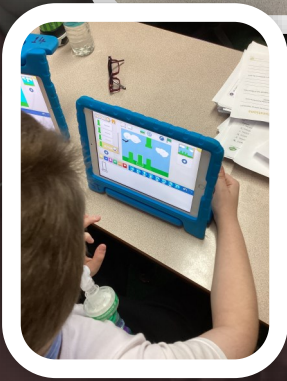
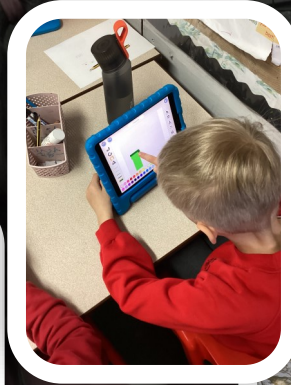
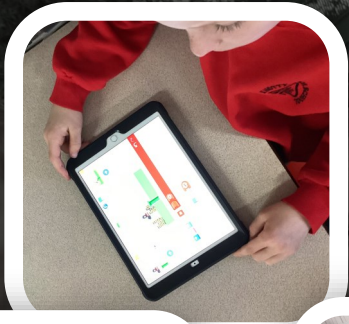
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# What have we been learning?

## Year 5



This week Year 5 have been very lucky to have a Liverpool artist come into school to give an assembly. He told everyone about how art saved his life! The children are really looking forward to having a go at spray painting next week, using his trademark stencil which says the word love. In English, we have been looking at the different features of rhyming poems such as figurative language, rhyming words and rhyme schemes. The children will write their own next week; I think from what I have seen this week we're going to get some beautiful poems to share. In Maths, the children have moved on from fractions and are focusing on multiplication and division. In the unit we will be looking at the different methods we can use to multiply and divide. The children enjoyed an afternoon in forest school this week and a morning of coding with Mr Mills. It has been a busy but fun week and not long till a well deserved rest during Easter break.

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# What have we been learning?

## DRB Key Stage 1



This week in infant DRB we have all worked extremely hard. We've been labelling, identifying nouns and verbs and have started joining these to make sentences. We are very proud of our achievements so far.

In Maths, we've continued with adding up bills and paying them using real pennies and working out addition calculations in our books. We have investigated all the different ways we can make 5p using our lunch time trays to 'shake and break' the pennies into different combinations of pennies.

We have been looking at different characteristics of an explorer. We have discovered that we are brave, clever, strong and confident explorers

To finish off the week, we have had fun measuring our heights, working out who is the tallest and shortest in our class. We can't wait to measure our height again at the end of Summer Term and see if any of us has grown. Watch this space!

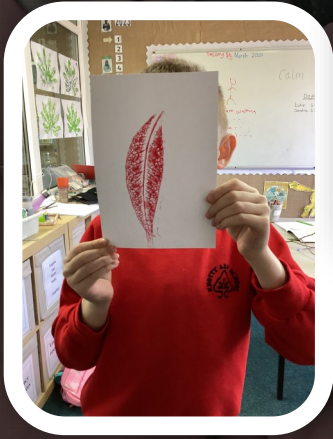
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# What have we been learning?

## DRB Key Stage 2



We're nearing the end of this term and the children in Junior DRB have been busy finishing their free writing for the ORT book *The Journey*. We've done lots of brilliant role play re-enacting the story and have all learned several new high frequency words relevant to the topic.

We've really enjoyed Art lessons with our DEI (Deaf Educational Instructor) Ann when we've learnt about different art periods, mediums, and artists. The DRB were lucky enough to have a guest artist visit on Thursday to talk about graffiti art and show them some of their work.

Feeling inspired by this, we decided to do an art afternoon where the children explored different mark making techniques including observational drawing, printing, crayon rubbings, and hammering petals to extract the colours. We've got some real budding artists in this group - so watch out Banksy!

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# Attendance



Class	Attendance
Reception	96.8%
Year 1	88.9%
Year 2	93.9%
Year 3	95.8%
Year 4	96.3%
Year 5	96.0%
Year 6	98.7%

**Whole school attendance this week 95.2%**

**Class attendance winners Year 6 98.7%**

Well done to all the children who were in school every day this week. Our lucky £10 winner in the attendance raffle will be drawn on Monday.

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

# 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 memes, make jokes 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 activities? 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?



Resilience doesn't mean being so tough that nothing gets to you, and it's not about "putting up with things" either. Instead, it's the ability to recover from setbacks. Everyone feels sad, worried, scared or upset at times: it's how we respond and adapt to those situations which is important. Digital resilience is about making 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.

## 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.

## KEEP YOUR HEALTH IN MIND



- Try to factor in regular breaks offline and away from your screen – ideally, outdoors for some revitalising 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.

## Meet Our Expert

Cayley Jorgensen is a registered counsellor with the Health Professions Council of South Africa, working in private practice to offer counselling to children, teenagers and young adults. She is the founder of Ingage Support, a mobile app focusing on mental health awareness with the goal of providing resources and solutions to schools worldwide.



## 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 socials 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.

## PUT SAFETY FIRST



- If you see something online that upsets 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 – or you could go one step further by totally deleting the app you were using.

## 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 deliberately unkind 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's being unkind online.

@natonlinesafety

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NOS National Online Safety #WakeUpWednesday

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# Term Dates and Events

27th-31st Mar	Rec-y6 Teacher-Parent meetings this week
Tue 28th Mar	Own clothes day—egg donations if you can
Wed 29th Mar	Easter Hat Parade for EYFS
Thur 30th Mar	Easter Hat Parade for y1 to y6
Thur 30th Mar	PTFA Easter movie
Fri 31st Mar	Easter Service at St John's Church
Fri 31st Mar	Easter cake sale
Fri 31st Mar	School finishes at 1:30pm for Easter break
3rd—14th April	EASTER BREAK
Mon 17th Apr	School reopens at 8:50am (8:30am for Nursery)

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# Family Activities & Support

The latest edition of the Liverpool Parenting Newsletter is here.

<https://sway.office.com/yaQ6W3itHm4L9gTU?ref=Link>

you will find new information about local support available for families and children in Liverpool, along with information regarding events and activities on offer running from March to May 2023.

We have also been sent information about Family Learning and Engagement Courses run by LCC Adult Learning Service. This can be found on our school website, link here:

<https://knotty-ash-primary-school.secure-primariesite.net/family-information-and-support/>

For families in receipt of benefits related free school meals, there are a variety of activities over the Easter break, all of which are free and include a meal:

<https://merseyplay.com/easter-haf-holiday-activities-food/>

Locally, St John's Church offer a range of community groups and activities for families:

<https://www.stjohnsknottyash.org/our-community>

There's also a range of groups and activities available at Yew Tree Children's Centre for parents whose children are 0-5 years.

<https://liverpool.gov.uk/children-and-families/early-years-and-childcare/childrens-centres/yew-tree-childrens-centre/>

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# Help and Advice

For a range of local services - [info@localsolutions.org.uk](mailto:info@localsolutions.org.uk)

## Parenting

Solihull Free Online Parenting Courses are now available on a mobile app. Go to the website: <https://inourplace.co.uk/> and enter the access code PURPLEBIN to register for any of the FREE parenting programmes Or download the Free app and do a course on your mobile device at your own pace.

Early Communications—a language enrichment group (Wednesday mornings) for 2-3 year-olds at Stoneycroft Children's Centre. [www.stoneycroftchildrenscentre.co.uk/](http://www.stoneycroftchildrenscentre.co.uk/)

The Drive is a local community centre offering a range of activities for family members, old and young. They also run weekly food clubs and provide breakfast/lunch to families during school holidays. <https://www.the-drive.org/home>

## Domestic Abuse

For support around domestic abuse - <https://worstkeptsecret.org.uk/>

If you are worried about anything affecting your own or your children's safety or wellbeing, please get in touch in confidence and we'll be able to signpost you to support.

For more advice and support, follow us on Twitter @Knotty\_Families

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# Winter Illness

## Advice from NHS

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

### Coughs and colds

It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or common cold. But if they have a fever, keep them off school until the fever goes.

Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

### High temperature

If your child has a high temperature, keep them off school until it goes away.

### Chickenpox

If your child has chickenpox, keep them off school until ALL the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.

### Sore throat

You can still send your child to school if they have a sore throat. But if they also have a high temperature, they should stay at home until it goes away.

A sore throat and a high temperature can be symptoms of tonsillitis.

### Scarlet fever

If your child has scarlet fever, they'll need treatment with antibiotics from a GP. Otherwise they'll be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks.

Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics.

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