



Northbourne News

24th September 2021

Speak Out, Stay Safe

As explained alongside the newsletter last week, children in Y1 upwards took part in NSPCC Speak Out, Stay Safe assemblies this week. These are intended to explain to children, in an age-appropriate way, the forms of abuse which are never acceptable, and which children should speak to an adult about. Pupils were encouraged to think of their trusted adults, both at home and at school, and taught that everyone has a right to feel safe and to grow up free from harm. They were also taught that, if speaking to an adult in person is hard, they can use the Childline number, 0800 1111. As always, your children responded thoughtfully and maturely to the topics being discussed – hopefully, some of these discussions continued with you at home.

More information about what was shared with children is available on the NSPCC website, <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/services/speak-out-stay-safe>, so please have a look and keep talking about such important areas of our curriculum for safeguarding.

On the theme of safeguarding, the National Online Safety website contains a wealth of helpful information about keeping children safe online. One of the quick reference guides published this week is a reminder of how to set appropriate filters and safety settings on Apple devices; I have attached this with this newsletter for you to have a glance at, and hope this is helpful. I will continue to share any guides which look to be of use...and remember the Net Aware website has a range of helpful information as well.

Updated documents

At the start of a school year, we update a number of our documents, policies and procedures. Please take a moment to remind yourself of our Privacy Notices (<https://northbourne.oxon.sch.uk/information/school-policies>) and, for parents with children new to Reception, have a look at our Parent Handbook (<https://northbourne.oxon.sch.uk/information/parents-information/>) which hopefully answers any questions you may not have thought of yet!

We have also attached our Home-School agreement to this Parentmail. Please take a moment to remind yourself of this document, which shows what we strive to provide for you and your child during their time at Northbourne, and what we ask of you in return. This is displayed in our classrooms and regularly discussed with children, so hope it is helpful for you to have a reminder of this agreement to discuss at home.

Individual and sibling photographs

Photos will be taken on **Monday 4th October**. Please make sure all pupils look as smart as they have so far this term! We would be grateful if children in Robins, Owls, Eagles and Kestrels – who all usually have PE on Monday and so come to school in their PE uniform – wear usual school uniform on this day rather than their PE clothes. Owls will have PE on Thursday that week as an alternative to Monday, so will need their PE uniform that day instead; Robins, Eagles and Kestrels will not have an alternative PE day during the week and so only need PE uniform on their other usual day.

If you would like a photograph which includes a sibling *younger than school age*, please bring all of your children to the photographer in the hall at 8:30am to allow these to be taken before the start of school. This does not apply to siblings who are all currently at Northbourne including our Nursery class, who will be collected for a joint photograph during the day.

News from St. Peters

St Peter's are excited to say that every Monday in term time, from 9am, babies and pre-school children are welcome for Little Fishes along with their carers, be that Mum, Dad, Grandad, childminder or nanny. Join us for play, company, coffee and a quiet bit in church.

Scooters

It is great to see so many children scooting to school at the moment. Please use the scooter racks to store these, rather than the bike racks, to help us make the most of the space we have. Thanks for your help.

Music lessons

Mr. Payne, our guitar teacher, currently has spaces for additional children in Ys 3 – 6 to start lessons – beginners and continuing players all welcome. Please contact goguitarmail@yahoo.co.uk directly if you are interested or have any questions.

Secondary transition events

A reminder that secondary school applications need to be made by 31st October. This is done through Oxfordshire County Council, using their website <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/apply-school-place/year-7-applications/make-application>. If you have any questions, or I can help with any part of this process, please make sure to get in touch.

Didcot Girls' School: Open Evening Wednesday 29th September, 4:30 – 7:30pm – no booking necessary. Other information about tours available on DGS's website: <https://www.didcotgirls.oxon.sch.uk/327/open-events-and-information-for-prospective-families>

St Birinus School: Open Mornings are available 28th, 29th 30th Sept and 5th, 6th, 7th, 12th, 13th and 14th Oct, starting at 9.15am.

Aureus Secondary School: Year 5 and 6 Open Evening Thursday 7th October, 5 – 7pm. Other Open Mornings are also available, with details on the school website: <http://www.aureusschool.org/548/open-events>