

Blackwater Newsletter

Friday 15th May 2020

ISSUE 2

Dear Parents and children,

Good afternoon families, I hope you have had another wonderful week of learning. As we all know, our Prime Minister announced a range of measures designed to ease the current lockdown including the re-opening of schools on the week beginning the 1st of June to Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children. This announcement was leaked to various newspapers, although the provision for our youngest children in the planned return came as a surprise. I will be sending a letter on Monday with the full information about how we intend to do this. I would gratefully appreciate your responses by Wednesday at the latest on what you, as a family, decide to do for those year groups. We will respect and support whatever decision you make as to whether or not you send your child to school.

Like you, our Staff and Governors want the school to reopen and for life to return to normal as soon as possible. I can assure you that our decision in whether or not to enter into a phased reopening from June 1st will be based entirely on careful consideration of the risks involved and our ability to manage them safely.

One more week until half term, I am so proud of all the children for continuing their home learning for the whole five weeks of this term so far. After discussions with the teachers, we thought we would make next week a bit more creative and hands on and back off from the formal teaching. This might give the children an extra bit of enthusiasm before having a rest over the half term. We will still be sending a weekly overview and the maths resources as usual, but we will be trying to make next week more 'project' and creative based. Paper copy learning packs will still be available from 10am on Monday.

We all know there are changes afoot. With this comes more workload for the staff, especially if we open our doors to more children. However, I would like to give you reassurance that home learning provision will be staying very similar as it is now, for the Summer term.

This will include:

- ⇒ Weekly Overview
- ⇒ Paper learning packs
- ⇒ Signposting to various online teaching provisions
- ⇒ Morning videos from the teachers.

The one item we will not continue is the bedtime story at the end of the day. We feel with the staff having an increased workload, this would be too much for them to fit into the day. We have to look after all of us, children and staff included. Thank you again for your continued support, your positive messages to staff make a real difference to our wellbeing.

Stay safe. Best wishes

Mrs Evison





Full time Nursery places available for children 3 years and older.



Places available in our fantastic Nursery provision from September.



All sessions run by qualified teachers.



Wrap around care available from 8am to 5:15pm.



Spaces available for 15 and 30 hours funding.



Amazing outdoor spaces for children to learn and play.

For more information please:

Visit our website

www.blackwater.cornwall.sch.uk

Or ring

01872 560570



We are starting to think about our wonderful Nursery provision for September.

Please spread the word if you know families who are looking for Nursery places.



Here is another report about what Parents need to know about House Party app.

Do you know that we now have information about Online Safety on our website:

http://www.blackwater.cornwall.sch.uk/website/online_safety/481381



feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What parents need to know about HOUSEPARTY

WHAT IS HOUSEPARTY?

Houseparty is a live streaming app described as a face-to-face social network where people 'drop in' on each other to video chat, leave messages and hang out in groups. The app is available for iOS, Android, macOS and Google Chrome and has tens of millions of users worldwide. It's important to note that children under the age of 13 must have a parent's permission to access the services, however, no proof of age is required to create an account.

HOW DO YOUNG PEOPLE USE IT?

Each time the app is opened, your child will be instantly connected to other users who are also on the app. Users can create group conversations of up to eight people at one time. Each time a person joins, the screen splits to show everyone who is part of the conversation. Your child can add contacts via phone numbers, search for their usernames, and share a link to their profile. They can have as many rooms as they want and move from chat to chat by swiping across the screen. Along with this functionality comes a few associated risks to be aware of...

AGE RESTRICTION 13+

"STRANGER DANGER"

Friends of friends can join conversations on the platform without the need to be connected or known to all the other users in the chat. Houseparty calls this feature 'Stranger Danger'. While it does alert users when individuals they may not know enter their chat room, it also suggests strangers might be a reason for 'party time'. There's also the danger of people attempting to deliberately mislead others by using false names or usernames.

SEXUALISED MESSAGES

People may use live streaming apps such as Houseparty to engage in inappropriate or illegal activities. There have been concerning reports directly linked to Houseparty, including one incident where two Mancunian children aged 11 and 12 were reportedly targeted by men exposing themselves back in 2017. Outside of their close friendship group, it's also important to note that friends of friends can also connect with your child via the app, which may include people with this intention.

CONTENT BEING SHARED

The 'facemall' feature lets users share moments from their Houseparty conversations by recording and sharing 15-second snippets of chats. They also have the option to save these moments to their gallery. For privacy purposes, every member of the group will see a notification if another member is recording. This could be a concern if your child shares something in the live chat they may later regret. Once recorded, they lose control over the video and how it is used. Screenshots of live streams and private messages can also be taken which could be shared widely and embarrass users.

CYBERBULLYING

Cyberbullying is when people use technology to harass, threaten, embarrass, or target another person. Group chats can be used by bullies to make negative or harmful comments which may cause offence or be harmful to others in the group. Exclusion from friendship groups within the platform may make your child feel sad and left out/socially excluded.

OVERSHARING PERSONAL INFORMATION

Children often don't understand the risks involved in giving out too much personal information in a live stream or within their profile. They may also be less protective of personal details during online conversations. One example of this within a live chat could be their background revealing information about where they live or go to school without realising.

IN-APP PURCHASES

By tapping on the dice icon your child can play a game called 'Heads Up!' where one person gives clues to describe someone or something and the other players guess. Three cards are included for free but additional decks cost real money. There's the potential for your child to get carried away playing the game while working up a small fortune.

Top Tips for Parents

TURN ON PRIVATE MODE

One additional tip is to use the app settings to turn on 'Private Mode' which automatically locks the room, instead of doing it manually. Parents with questions can always email us at hello@houseparty.com

SAFER CONVERSATIONS

With live streaming being such a popular feature on apps, it is important that you are aware of the dangers associated with it in order to protect your child effectively. Have regular and honest conversations with your child about what apps they are using and how they are using them. It may be a good idea to have your child show you how they use Houseparty and how to navigate through the platform so you are aware of how it works.

CHECK COMMUNICATIONS

Also, it's important to be aware of who is on their friends list and who they are communicating with. Remind your child to not communicate with people they do not know and trust. If they experience something on the app that makes them feel uncomfortable then they should tell a trusted adult immediately. Remind your child that if they get an invite to join a Houseparty room from someone they don't recognise, then they should ignore the request.

'LOCK' ROOMS

In regards to communicating with users on the platform, we advise that your child uses the 'lock' feature to make their conversations private. This means that other users, especially strangers, can't join their conversations.

PROTECT THEIR PRIVACY

Your child may unknowingly give away personal information during a live stream, including their location. Talk to them about what constitutes 'personal information' and make sure they do not disclose anything to anyone during a live stream, even to their friends. Advise them to remove any items in their live stream (school uniform, street name, posters etc.) that could potentially expose their location or personal information. Check your child's privacy settings thoroughly. You have the option to opt out of certain uses and disclosures of personal information, such as turning off the app's location sharing option.

PROTECTING YOUR CHILD'S DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

As the videos are live, it may lead to the misconception that whatever happens in the video will disappear once the live stream ends. All content shared on the app can be recorded or screenshoted and shared to a wider community. It is important that your child knows that what they do now may affect their future opportunities. In addition to this, the video chats can't be reviewed later which means unless a parent or carer is sitting nearby during a call, they won't know what has been said. It's worth bearing in mind that parents can see when their child has last communicated with someone and for how long for under the 'We Time' feature.

REMOVE LINKS TO OTHER APPS

Users can link their account to both Facebook and Snapchat, or can simply share a link to their profile. We advise that you remove these links and remind your child not to publicly share access to their online profiles as there is the potential for strangers to get hold of your child's information or communicate with them.

BE PRESENT

A study conducted by the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) found that 96% of streams showed a child on their own, often in their bedroom or bathroom. If your child is going to conduct a live stream, ask them if you could be present for it. This will give you a greater understanding of what your child is doing during their live streams and who they are streaming to.

REPORTING AND BLOCKING

If your child faces a problem while using the app they can report direct to the platform by shaking their phone. A prompt will pop up allowing you to report issues immediately by clicking on the 'report now' button. They also have the option to report and block users directly on the user's profile.

SOURCES:
<https://www.theface.com/articles/houseparty-the-chat-app-that-broke-the-internet>
<https://www.facebook.com/parentalhelp>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-51844444>
<https://www.houseparty.com>

NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety Instagram - @nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 25.03.2020

Activities Page



Physical Activity Fun



Go Noodle is a website that promotes movement and mindfulness through videos developed by child development experts. I personally enjoy 'Koo Koo Ranga Roo'!

Have a go, it will make you move, giggle and have fun!

<https://family.gonoodle.com/>

Teach your child to weave



Weaving is such a fun and calming activity for children. You can create wonderful pieces of art with minimal resources. Use this link for a quick guide: <https://www.brisbanekids.com.au/nature-craft-teach-your-child-to-branch-weave-in-5-easy-steps/>

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Chocolate traybake

Ingredients

For the cake:

300g (10oz) softened butter,

margarine or dairy-free spread

300g (10oz) caster sugar

4 medium eggs

300g (10oz) cocoa powder

1 teaspoon gluten-free baking powder

300g (10oz) fine cornmeal (polenta)

2 teaspoons vanilla essence

For decorating:

300g (10oz) allergy-free white chocolate chips, or allergy-free white chocolate chopped into tiny chunks

300g (10oz) allergy-free plain chocolate chips, or allergy-free plain chocolate chopped into tiny chunks

You will also need a 37 x 25cm (15 x 10in) rectangular cake tin.

Making around 12 squares

This simple chocolate cake doesn't contain any wheat, gluten or nuts, and you can make it dairy-free too, so as well as being delicious, it's a good choice if you're cooking for someone who can't eat those foods.

1 Preheat the oven to 150°C, 325°F or gas mark 3. Grease and line the tin (see page 6).

2 Beat the butter, margarine or dairy-free spread and sugar together in a large bowl, until they are pale and fluffy.

3 Break the eggs into a small bowl and beat them with a fork. Add them to the beaten mixture a little at a time, beating it again after each addition.

4 Add the cornmeal, cocoa powder and gluten-free baking powder to the mixture. Mix well.

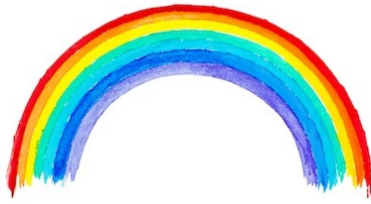
5 Spoon the mixture into the tin, pushing it into the corners with the back of a spoon. Bake for 25 to 30 minutes until the cake is firm and springy. Leave for 5 minutes, to cool.

6 Shake the tin upside down over a wire rack. The cake should pop out. While it is still hot, make the marbled chocolate topping (see page 32).

7 When the topping has set, put the cake in a bowl, then cut it into around 12 squares.



Taken from The Usborne Children's Chocolate Cookbook | Age 7+ | £9.99 | www.usborne.com/cookery



NSPCC
0808 800 5000
(24hrs)

National Domestic Abuse Helpline
0808 2000 247
(24hrs free)

Mind
0300 123 3393
(Mon-Fri 9-6)

Victim Support
0808 168 9111
(24hrs)

Cruse Bereavement
0800 808 1677
(Mon-Fri 9-5)

ChildLine
0800 1111
(24hrs)

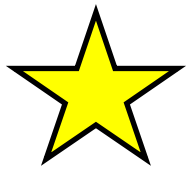
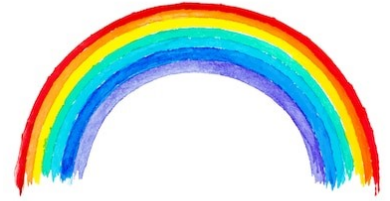
Action on Elder Abuse
0808 808 8141
(Mon-Fri 9-5)

Respect - Men's Advice Line
0808 801 0327
(Mon-Fri 9-5or8pm)

Samaritans
116 123
(24hrs free)

National Centre for Domestic Violence
0207 186 8270

NEVER ALONE



Stars of the Week



Stars of the Week

Wheal Friendly: Bodhi and Indi R - for fantastic learning all week, all round superstars!

Wheal Harmony: Karenza J- amazing progress and effort all round.

Wheal Busy: Harrison A - for doing so much learning and really loving it!

Wheal Luna: Ellie S - persevering with her learning and producing amazing results !

Above and Beyond

Nella F - For her amazing learning this week - totally wonderful work!



Each star will get a special certificate flying into the inbox of their parent's email.



*In order to carry a positive action we must develop
here a positive vision.*

Dalai Lama

